



No 63,872

Chancellor's supporters envisage an outright win on the second ballot

Major, Hurd pledge reform of the poll tax

By PHILIP WEBSTER AND ROBIN OAKLEY

Saturday Review

Eight nights at the Opera



Luciano Pavarotti costs £10,000 a performance, one of the more glamorous statistics associated with running the Royal Opera House. John Higgins examines the balance sheet covering eight nights

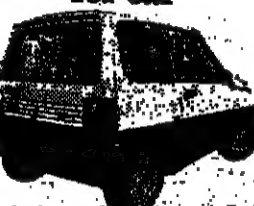
Dressing the child in labels

Some parents who buy "fashion" clothes for their children are saying a lot about themselves but doing the child no favours

Written into the plot

Jonathan Raben explains to Alan Franks how he accidentally invaded the plot of his latest travel book

The French for car



These little cars have made an impact on traffic problems in Paris. Why are they not available in Britain?

SPORT

Hanley leads, 20 years on



Ellery Hanley captains Great Britain in the rugby league international today, hoping for the first series victory against Australia in 20 years

MONEY

Some boots are made for selling

Car boot sales and cheap-to-rent market stalls are becoming big business as people find new ways to raise cash

TIMES

Funny how comics change

The zap! pow! days are mostly gone as comics turn to serious issues. Our colour magazine for young readers finds out why. Plus the chance to win a John Barnes video

INDEX

Arts	23
Births, marriages, deaths	15
Business	34-35
Chess	6
Court & social	14
Education	15, 26
Environment	19
Health	15, 26
Home	15, 26
International	15, 26
Jobs	15, 26
Law	15, 26
Life	15, 26
Local	15, 26
Music	15, 26
Obituary	15, 26
Politics	15, 26
Religion	15, 26
Science	15, 26
Sport	15, 26
Travel	15, 26
TV	15, 26
Weather	15, 26
World	15, 26
Young people	15, 26

ON OTHER PAGES

Four pages of reports and analysis ... 2, 3, 4, 5

Major interview ... page 12
Diary ... page 12
Leading article ... page 13
Letters ... page 13
Memorabilia ... page 21
Markets ... page 36

THE future of the poll tax was yesterday thrown into the centre of the Conservative leadership contest as Douglas Hurd and John Major put pledges to reform it at the heart of their appeal to Conservative MPs.

Michael Heseltine has already promised to look closely at the community charge, so the declarations of all three candidates mean a speedy review is certain whoever is elected prime minister.

Mr Major's campaign got off to a healthy start yesterday, with pledges of support from many MPs who had voted for Margaret Thatcher in the first round. Some of the Chancellor's more enthusiastic campaigners were even talking of a win outright on Tuesday. He said he had received pledges from a third of the parliamentary party, and bookmakers made him favourite to win the contest.

All three contenders were emphasising their credentials for uniting the party. As the shock waves of Mrs Thatcher's resignation continued to reverberate through Westminster and the wider party, Mr Major was said to be making the best headway among her first-round backers. Mr Hurd's camp reported

"close to 100" committed supporters. Campaigners said that a full and rigorous canvass of Tory MPs had revealed that more than 100 remained "floating voters" who were placing great store on consultations in their constituencies. Mr Heseltine's team claimed that 40 MPs who had supported Mrs Thatcher had gone over to him but it appeared that he was losing some of his first ballot support.

The Major campaign was boosted last night when it won the backing of John MacGregor, leader of the Commons. Mr Major and Mr Hurd each have the support of five cabinet colleagues. Chris Patten, Tom King, Malcolm Rifkind, William Waldegrave and Kenneth Clarke are lined up behind Mr Hurd. Mr Major is backed by Norman Lamont, Peter Lilley, John

Gummer, Michael Howard and Mr MacGregor. David Waddington, the home secretary who is one of the few still uncommitted members of the cabinet, said either Mr Hurd or Mr Major could unite the party. He did not mention Mr Heseltine. Lord Howe of the Heral, the former prime minister, supported the foreign secretary.

Launching their campaigns yesterday, both Mr Major and Mr Hurd indicated that they hoped they could change the community charge before the next general election. Mr Heseltine moved swiftly to harden his own pledge, saying that any review must be fundamental to ensure that the Tories were re-elected. He said the review must be concluded before the manifesto was drafted.

In an interview with *The Times* yesterday, Mr Major said it was clear there was "irresistible momentum" for further changes to the community charge. The Chancellor said that he would not seek to produce instant solutions. "We should not be bounced by the imminence of a leadership election". But he declared: "I would hope we can do something before the election". He was becoming increasingly convinced that "we will not be able to leave things as they are".

Mr Hurd said the poll tax would be a urgent priority for the new cabinet. The foreign secretary is assisted on the issue by having Mr Patten, who would be in charge of any new review, in his team. The two had long consultations on Thursday on how the charge could be reformed rapidly. Although Mr Hurd said in a BBC television interview that banding the charge had been "pretty well discarded" and thought unworkable, it is understood that he and Mr Patten have been discussing the possibility of more central finance and relating the tax to the ability to pay.

Mr Heseltine said he was delighted that his two opponents were moving towards changes in the charge. "I hear John and Douglas saying that now. That is what I said when I decided to stand. It will be of central importance to our party to get that review over and done with and commitments made."

The return of the poll tax to centre stage has not displeased the Labour party. Neil Kinnock last night said: "When it comes to poll tax, the choice is between Heseltine who knows there is a problem and does not really know what to do about it, Major who knows there is a problem and does not really want to do anything about it and Hurd, who has only just found out there is a problem."

Tory MPs were wondering whether Mr Major would take his cue from Nigel Lawson, the former Chancellor, who disclosed on BBC's *Question Time* that there was a plan in the Treasury for a revised version of the rating system.

In their separate press conferences, both Mr Hurd and Mr Major yesterday came out against the idea of a referendum on the single European currency, an idea floated by Mrs Thatcher. Both said that such decisions should be taken by Parliament.

Mr Hurd emphasised the value of his foreign affairs experience as the Gulf Confirmed on page 26, col 3



My party needs me: John Major getting his case at 11 Downing Street yesterday

West races to win UN support by next week

By MICHAEL KNIFE, DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

WITH America and Britain in a race against time to win international support for the use of force against Iraq, Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, yesterday predicted that the United Nations Security Council would address the issue formally next week.

A strong indication that progress has been made in private diplomatic contacts came when it emerged that foreign ministers were preparing to fly to the UN to participate personally in a

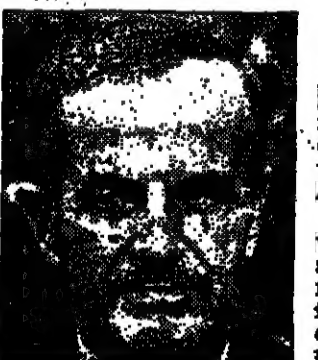
at the end of the month, from the United States to Yemen, the council's only Arab member and the one which is least inclined to pressure Iraq.

Yemen's presidency will rob the leaders of the multinational forces in the Gulf of their tactical diplomatic advantage. The Sanaa government has abstained from voting on five of the ten security council resolutions against Iraq since August 2.

James Baker, the US Secretary of State, flew to Sanaa on Tuesday in an attempt to win the support of General Ali Abdullah Saleh, the Yemeni president, for a use of force resolution but his efforts were rebuffed. President Saleh criticised the military build-up in the region and called for an Arab solution to the conflict.

Mr Hurd's suggestion that the council was set to consider a draft resolution on the use of force as soon as next week, the first such signal, was made during a press conference on the Conservative party leadership contest. He said such a draft would be the latest of the peaceful pressures to persuade President Saddam Hussein of Iraq to withdraw from Kuwait. "I don't know whether those peaceful pressures will work," he said, "and that is why I fear the crisis is entering a crucial, critical phase."

The West's predictions of an early resolution calling for the use of force still appear to be at odds with the views of the Soviet Union and China, the other two permanent members of the council. Edward Shevardnadze, the Soviet foreign minister, said



Assad: exchanged views with Bush last night

security council session. One senior council source said an incomplete draft resolution was in the capitals of the permanent members.

President Bush, who last night held talks with President Assad of Syria, the first such meeting in 13 years, said earlier that the US was "very, very close" to obtaining support for the military option.

The West's sense of urgency stems from the fact that the presidency of the security council passes alphabetically,

in Paris earlier in the week that it was time to return to the security council to "take stock", but when he met Qian Qichen, his Chinese counterpart, in the western Chinese city of Urumqi near the border with the Soviet Union yesterday, Western diplomats noted that neither of them mentioned the possibility of a UN Security Council resolution on the use of force.



Carlew lifted, page 9

Shares surge on hope of cut in interest rates

By GEORGE SIVELL

SHARES surged in London yesterday thanks to a strong pound, hopes that the incoming prime minister will soon be in a position to cut interest rates, and favourable opinion poll showings for the Conservatives under a new leadership.

By the close, the FT-SE 100 index had climbed to 2,170.5, a rise of 42.6 points on the day and 72.5 points on the week.

The market's golden scenario, where interest rates are cut ahead of a Conservative general election victory in June or July next year, is back on the agenda.

Analysis said a Heseltine win in the leadership race should give the biggest boost to the stock market, as he offered the best chance of preventing Labour from forming the next government.

Death silences Pied Piper of the macabre

By PHILIP HOWARD

ONE of the most widely read and influential writers of our generation died yesterday afternoon in Oxford. Roald Dahl was the most popular writer of children's books since Enid Blyton. He would have hated the comparison, always taking a high and mighty view of his work. Teachers disliked his boldness and underdog anarchy. Parents were frightened by the cruelty and nastiness. But children bought it in millions. *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* and the others are the equivalent of *The Wind in the Willows* and *William* for the tougher postwar generations.

He was a colourful and chippy man and a writer of horror short stories, televised with success under the apt title *Tales of the Unexpected*. His talents lay not in characterisation or psychological insight, but in macabre ingenuity and a

kind of daft fantasy that rang the bell with the young. His stories combine the outré with clockwork precision of plot: for example, the murder committed with a frozen leg of lamb, which is then eaten to remove the weapon.

He had quite a lot to be cross about in life. His parents were Norwegian, but he was born in Cardiff. His father and sister died within a few weeks when he was a boy. He was sent to a boarding school, where he was beaten a lot, and escaped into the war as a fighter pilot, and then a spook, which explains the devilishness. One of his children died of measles and another was permanently damaged in a road accident as a baby. His first wife, the actress Patricia Neal, suffered a catastrophic stroke. His life was punctuated by plane crashes, illnesses, surgery and bereavement.

He got into writing by accident in the

United States. And he had the magic. He once said, with characteristic modesty: "I do have power. Writing is all propaganda, in a sense. You can get at greediness and selfishness by making them look ridiculous. The greatest attribute of a human being is kindness, and all the other qualities like bravery and perseverance are secondary to that."

He was gruff, difficult, absurdly right-wing and opinionated. He enjoyed annoying the respectable, one of the reasons children loved his work. But the best was terrific. He wrote far too much and not all of it was much good. In the last 12 months his 18 children's titles in paperback sold more than 2 million copies in the UK alone. He was our modern Pied Piper. Children as well as publishers will mourn his silence.



Roald Dahl: cruel tales bewitched child readers

INDIVIDUALITY. A CLASSIC TIMEPIECE THAT REPRESENTS THE PINNACLE OF THE WATCHMAKERS ART. THE STEEL AND YELLOW METAL ELITE. PART OF A COMPLETE RANGE OF WATCHES FROM ALFRED DUNHILL.



VISIT ALFRED DUNHILL IN LONDON AT DUKE STREET, ST JAMES'S, THE BURLINGTON ARCADE, 5 SLOANE STREET AND AT ALFRED DUNHILL IN HARRODS AND SELFREDGES WATCHES ALSO AVAILABLE AT WATCHES OF SWITZERLAND LTD, THE GOLDSMITHS GROUP, HARRODS WATCH DEPARTMENT AND LEADING JEWELLERS.

Treasury hare leaves Foreign Office tortoise lagging behind

By ROBIN OAKLEY
POLITICAL EDITOR

THE British stand for parliament, the Americans run for office. There is a distinctly brisk American flavour about the John Major campaign. Douglas Hurd paces it the Foreign Office way, waiting for chaos to bring in the tea.

Within hours of Mr Major's candidature being announced, his team of ministerial backers were hitting the telephones, numbers had been circulated to journalists and media bids were being canvassed. No holding back there to let it be Mrs Thatcher's day. She surely would have approved such

single-mindedness. The Major team were talking figures by 9 am on the second day, claiming already to have the support of more than a third of Tory MPs.

When he staged his opening press conference at the Treasury, Mr Major was surrounded by ambitious, capable young politicians including Norman Lamont and David Mellor. Although Norman Tebbit has pledged his support and promised to deliver the right-wing vote, he was not in evidence. The emphasis is on the team for the 1990s.

The message was skilfully calculated: Mr Major has not forgotten the C2s who delivered Mrs

Thatcher her election victories and who have lately been defecting in droves.

There was a clear signal that he will not treat every piece of legislation from the Thatcher years as a holy relic, and - at the second time of asking - a clear knockdown for the idea of referendums.

The Treasury civil servants had been schooled to cope. But when the press pack trooped next door to the Foreign Office for Mr Hurd's opening shots, it was a different story. Locking the media out in the cold for 25 minutes, saying with "more than my jobsworth" officials is scarcely a

way of winning friends. Somebody might have told them what was coming. For the first 24 hours, the Hurd team had been invisible and unheard while their man was being done down as the "Whitchurch candidate" with no grasp of economics.

Mr Hurd himself was crisp and effective in his Thursday night television interviews. He sees off all the stuff about his old Etonian background with a reminder that he, too, knows about social mobility as a scholarship boy. He is authoritative on the big questions and has a gift for the odd colourful phrase. He begins to look like a man who really wants

the job. But he starts with the handicap of having signalled only at party conference time that he had other, almost equally appealing, things to do in life.

The Hurd press conference was a touch defensive. Fielding the foreign secretary and his PPS in shirt sleeves and braces helped to counter the image of Whitchurch stuffiness. But Mr Hurd was patently less at ease on economic questions and very ready to dwell on his forte of foreign affairs. His responses on other questions were reactive and slid too readily into an attack on the Labour party, which is not fighting this election.

Where Mr Hurd scored was in his emphasis on listening, deciding and persuading. But his appeal has been so far to other politicians. That is wise in the sense that it is politicians who will vote in the new party leader. But the reason these politicians discarded Margaret Thatcher was their fear that she could not longer win them a general election. They are looking for someone who can reach out beyond Westminster. If they are going to be convinced of that, Mr Hurd's backers will need to install a few more telephones.

There was a lull in Michael Heseltine's public campaign yesterday as the team regrouped to prepare an advance on wavering voters (Lin Jenkins writes). Having called off a trip to the West Country, Mr Heseltine concentrated on wooing the parliamentary party from behind closed doors.

Campaigners rejected suggestions that Mrs Thatcher's Commons performance on Thursday had backfired and cast Mr Heseltine as the villain of the piece. Two staunch Thatcher supporters from Torbay thought differently and made their point by handcuffing themselves to the railings outside Mr Heseltine's London house, along with a placard saying: "Maggie made us great, you have destroyed us".

Hurd stakes his appeal on ability to unite party

By PHILIP WEBSTER, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

DOUGLAS Hurd yesterday spoke of the virtues of sound money and social responsibility as he staked his appeal to Conservative MPs on his experience in foreign affairs and his ability to unite the party in time to win the next general election.

The foreign secretary made a review of the community charge designed to make it fairer and more acceptable to the public an urgent priority of a Hurd cabinet. But he appeared to rule out a referendum on a single European currency.

Launching his leadership campaign at a press conference at the Foreign Office, Mr Hurd said that the Gulf confrontation "weighs on my mind among the issues more

heavily than anything else at the present time." Referring to the consideration by the UN security council next week of a resolution authorising member states to use force to reverse Iraqi aggression, he said he hoped it would be the latest of the peaceful pressures on Saddam Hussein to encourage him to withdraw.

"I don't know whether those peaceful pressures will work - and that is why I fear the crisis is entering a crucial, critical phase and in the next weeks and months we will be in that phase."

He said that events in the next weeks would require cool, authoritative and resolute handling. "I believe I can offer the country the experience I have gained working with the prime minister at the centre of the world alliance against Iraq's aggression."

Mr Hurd said that improvements to the poll tax were being made but went on: "I do not think that will be enough. It is clear to me from all the messages I have had, not least in the last few days, that everybody wants us to have another look at it."

Mr Hurd's lack of experience in an economic ministry is being cited against him by his opponents. But a important part of his "manifesto" was an exhortation to see the fight against inflation through to success which he said was "essential if we are to safeguard the inheritance of Margaret Thatcher's three administrations."

Mr Hurd said: "We must listen, decide, persuade. That is the essence of democratic government. Assertion is not the same as persuasion. We must spend more time on persuasion."

Mr Hurd was questioned about his social background. An Old Etonian he is viewed in some quarters at Westminster as the establishment candidate. "I would like you to go to the farmhouse in Marlborough Downs where I was brought up. My father was a tenant farmer farming 500 acres. He became the agricultural correspondent of *The Times* and got a number of other journalistic appointments."

"I was not uncomfortable off. I am not saying that. But there was no question of him sending me to Eton if I had not won a scholarship. That is what social mobility is all about."

Mr Hurd supported Mrs Thatcher's pledge that a Conservative government should seek to reduce taxes. There would be no question of seeking to prevent the reforms in the health service and in the educational system which the present government had set in hand.

Asked to define his position in the party, he said: "I come clearly from the centre of the Conservative party. Support for my cause comes from all parts of the Conservative parliamentary party. It is on that basis that the first task, unifying the Conservative party, can be done."



Fighting talk: a shirt-sleeved Douglas Hurd in ebullient form at a press conference in London yesterday

Major sets his sights on a classless society in Britain by the year 2000

By ROBIN OAKLEY, POLITICAL EDITOR

JOHN Major opened his campaign for the Tory leadership yesterday by pledging to make Britain a classless society by the year 2000.

He announced his belief in concentrating tax cuts on the lower-paid and gave great emphasis to the need to increase the status of the teaching profession. The chancellor made it plain that he would not hesitate to change the policies of Mrs Thatcher's government where he saw proven need to do so and in response to questions made plain his opposition to the idea of referendums.

He said: "I certainly don't rule out the need for further changes in the community charge. I have become increasingly convinced we will not be able to leave things as they are. But he insisted that any changes should not simply be a matter of shifting the burden from one area to another, seemingly coming down against Mr

Heseltine's idea of switching educational expenditure to central government.

Claiming to have won the support of 124 MPs, a third of the Tory parliamentary party, Mr Major underlined his claims for the leadership by stressing that the next election would be decided on economic issues. He added: "I believe the party both can and will unite after this leadership election. I certainly have no doubt, were I elected leader, I would be able to unite them." Urging the need for greater social mobility, he said there was a need to do more to improve educational standards for the 1990s generation.

The Chancellor said one of the Government's greatest achievements had been to narrow the gap between blue-collar and white-collar workers. By increasing personal choice and opportunity he wanted to see that gap reduced still further. He wanted "changes to

produce across the whole of this country a genuinely classless society so people can rise to whatever level from whatever level they started."

Possibly nervous about prejudicing some of his right wing votes, Mr Major dodged questions about whether he would serve in a government led by Michael Heseltine, claiming that it was a constitutional point. But there was a clear implication that he would be willing to serve if Mr Heseltine

wins when he said that after the leadership contest people should offer their skills to whoever became prime minister. The chancellor gave journalists the latest Test score from Australia: England all out for 194. Mr Major, who needs 187 votes next Tuesday, said: "It is not a good score for them but would be a perfectly satisfactory score for me."

Interview, page 12

Bright young things latch on to challenge

By BILL FROST

JOHN Major's campaign headquarters were buzzing with activity yesterday as the bright young Tory things who have attached themselves to his challenge for the party leadership fielded phone calls every couple of minutes.

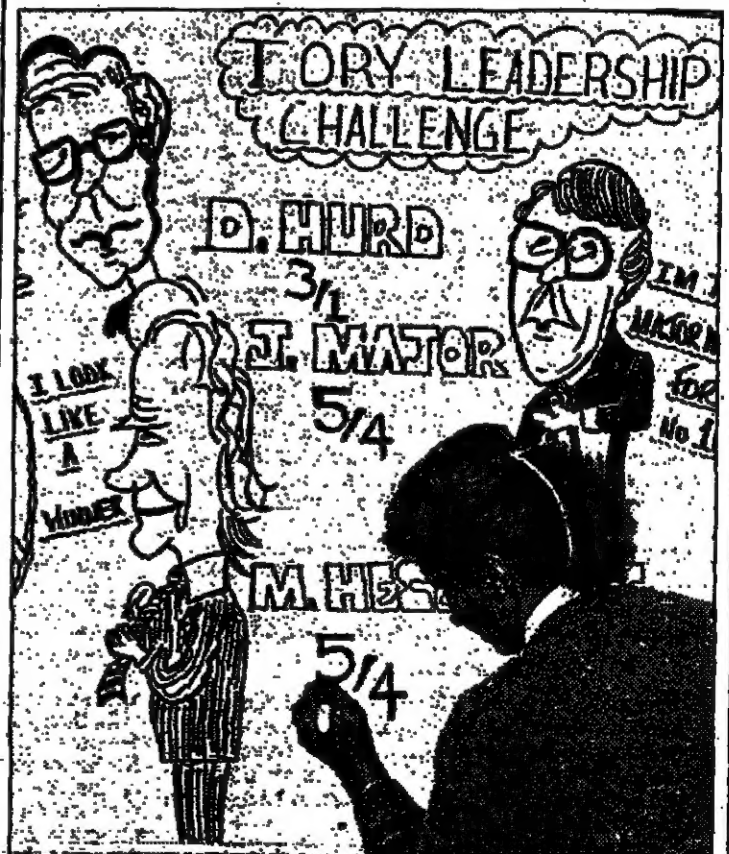
The elegant Georgian townhouse in Westminster, just 100 yards from central office, was transformed into a political operations room at 11.30 am on Thursday. Alan Duncan, whose home has become the nerve centre of the Major campaign, said: "I got the call from one of Mr Major's aides and, within hours, we had installed four extra phone lines, a word processor and a computer."

Mr Duncan, prospective parliamentary candidate for the sixth safest Tory seat in the country, Rutland and Melton, has resigned himself to late nights, early mornings and gallons of black coffee for the duration of the campaign. "We haven't stopped since we knew John was standing." The young

Tory Majorettes at campaign HQ are energetic and enthusiastic. They are infinitely patient too, still managing to be polite to yet another reporter from a BBC programme.

Happy to be of service, the Majorettes bustled about while a succession of backbenchers and ministers arrived yesterday for secret meetings in a basement room. Among those who beat a path to Gayle Street was William Hague, the MP for Richmond, Yorks, who said yesterday: "We have canvassed two-thirds of MPs now and have firm pledges from 124." What about the waverers though, those who might change their allegiance over the weekend? "We have taken that into account," he said. "During the weekend we will be phoning round to make sure they haven't switched."

He added: "This shows no signs of becoming a dirty tricks campaign. There is a lot less bitterness and rancour around now."



Tory stakes odds in the Conservative leadership voting are marked at a London branch of the bookmaker Ladbrokes, which yesterday saw John Major take over from Michael Heseltine as clear favourite. At the end of the day, Mr Major was quoted at even, with Mr Heseltine at 11-8 and Douglas Hurd at 7-2. An overseas supporter of John Major placed two bets of £10,000, one at 6-4 and the other at 5-4, with Ladbrokes. Carls also opened with Mr Heseltine as favourite but quickly set the odds on Mr Major after several bets of £2,000 were placed, and later offered Mr Major at 11-10, Mr Heseltine at 5-4 and Mr Hurd at 7-2. William Hill, which is predicting that it will take over £1 million in bets for the contest, has Mr Major as even money favourite, with Mr Heseltine quoted at 5-4, and Mr Hurd at 4-1.

BBC quick to line up Sunday interviews

By MELINDA WITTSTOCK
MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

BBC Television may have been two minutes behind its rivals with news of Margaret Thatcher's resignation, but it was the first yesterday to line up Sunday interviews with those struggling to replace her.

Michael Heseltine, Douglas Hurd and John Major were all quick yesterday morning to confirm pre-recorded interviews with Jonathan Dimbleby on BBC1's *On The Record*, to be aired at 1pm tomorrow, 10 minutes before LWT's *Walden*. LWT later said

that it, too, would be screening pre-recorded interviews with all three candidates.

Both *Walden* and *On The Record* will transmit the interviews unedited, as if live. TV-am has persuaded Mr Hurd and Mr Major to appear live on David Frost's *Frost On Sunday* at 8am but failed to get Mr Heseltine, who said his schedule was too busy. Mr Major will be in the studio and Mr Hurd will appear via a studio link.

ITN, which over the weekend runs only news bulletins, has not scheduled any special Tory leadership programmes. Nor has BBC Radio or any commercial radio station.

Radio 4 will this morning examine the contest on *Today* and on *The World This Weekend* at 1pm on tomorrow but no interviews with any candidates have been set up.

BBC1 however will run a special edition repeat of Mr Dimbleby's *On The Record* at 10.55pm tomorrow night in which a studio audience of 50, chosen by Gallup as representative of the country, will be wired or "people-metered" for their responses and "body

language" reactions to clips of the earlier interviews with all three candidates.

Responses of individuals in the audience to what the candidates say, ranging from approval and disapproval to interest and disinterest, will be announced by Mr Dimbleby as the programme is transmitted.

"The monitor may show that 50 per cent of the audience responded positively to something one candidate said or that 40 per cent reacted with complete disinterest to what another said," a BBC TV spokesman said.

Contestants wooing the Thatcher loyalists

By RICHARD FORD
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

AS HIS two rivals for the Conservative party leadership formally launched their campaigns yesterday, Michael Heseltine continued to stress that he was the candidate best placed to win the next general election.

With John Major and Douglas Hurd highlighting their experience in top cabinet jobs, Mr Heseltine will spend the next few days trying to prevent any erosion of his vote and also in appealing to the loyal supporters of Mrs Thatcher on the right of the party.

The worst fear of the Heseltine camp is that their candidate will prove to have been a high-class stalling horse and that some of those who voted for Mr Heseltine only did so to force Mrs Thatcher to withdraw and that they will switch to another candidate.

His supporters have identified John Major as the main threat to his chance to win the leadership contest and are wooing the right, by promoting Mr Heseltine's credentials in introducing Thatcher-style policies while at the environment and defence departments.

Mr Heseltine said he was a "radical reforming Tory" and that young people who had supported Mrs Thatcher had begun to listen to him.

"People are listening to what I am saying and realising that actually I am a radical reforming Tory wanting to push the frontiers into the 1990s, but to do that and keep up the momentum of change and protect all we have achieved in the Eighties we have got to win," he said. He will emphasise during the next few days that a vote for him will revive Conservative fortunes.

The Heseltine camp denies that the entry of Mr Major and Mr Hurd has caused any slippage of his vote but for the first time since he launched his challenge, the former defence secretary named former Thatcher loyalists who were supporting him.

In doing so, Mr Heseltine's supporters intend to create an impression that a bandwagon is moving inexorably in their favour and to victory.

However, both Mr Major and Mr Hurd have acted swiftly to steal one of the main planks of Mr Heseltine's appeal to the party. Yesterday both men pledged to look again at the poll tax. Mr Heseltine commented ruefully: "I hear Douglas and John are saying that now."

"That is what I said when I decided to stand and it will be of central importance to our party to get that review over and done with and the commitments made."

Before voting on Tuesday, he will stress his support in the regions and will target marginal seats across northern England. Sir Neil Macfarlane, a leading Heseltine campaigner, said support had come from Scotland, the North and Midlands, which was an essential ingredient of his leadership contest.

Although yesterday was a low-key day for the campaign, the Heseltine team is confident opinion polls over the next few days will show he is the man capable of taking the party to a fourth general election victory. He will spend most of today preparing for a television interview tomorrow by Brian Walden.

Rules of the contest

By JOHN WINDER

The second ballot for the Conservative leadership will take place in a Westminster committee room on Tuesday. A winner needs the support of the majority of the party's MPs, or 187 votes.

If none of the three contenders secures a majority, they will go on to a third ballot on Thursday. This will involve MPs naming their first and second choice of leader. If no candidate receives an overall majority, the man coming third is eliminated and his second-choice votes redistributed among his rivals to find a winner.

In TRANSIT WAREHOUSE
Vauxhall, London SW8

URGENT PUBLIC AUCTION
District Order Executed by the Court Appointed Bailiff
District Court Judgment Landlords Dismissed

SEIZED VALUABLE ASSETS
A Large Confiscated Stock of
PERSIAN & EASTERN
Handmade Carpets, Rugs & Corridors
Including: Ispahan, Kirman, Heir, Bidjar, Heriz, Kashkay, Afkhar,
Kurdistan, Kermas, Kars Koush etc. in Silk & Wool.
All Sizes, incl. many extra large room sizes to 17' x 10'

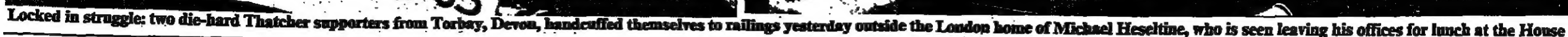
Remaining goods sequestered in accordance with the
Court verdict now appraised with other items for
immediate liquidation by

SHORT NOTICE PUBLIC AUCTION
SUNDAY, 25th NOV. at 11.00 a.m. SHARP
Inspection from 10.00 a.m.

This superb position reflected in truck now ordered to be sold
in quickest possible manner **PIECE-BY-PIECE** at

SKILLION STORAGE WAREHOUSE
67-71 Broadway, Vauxhall, London SW8
(Situated 200 yards from Vauxhall Bridge, direction Nine Elms)

Terms: Cash, Certified cheque, major Credit Cards
BICKENSTAFF & KNOWLES, Auctioneers,
6 The Arcade, Thurloe St., London SW7. Tel: 071-589 7971.



By DOUGLAS BROOM, LOCAL GOVERNMENT CORRESPONDENT



HI-FI CLEAROUT!

0% INTEREST FREE CREDIT
on all systems (Subject only to simple clearance)

£90 OFF THIS TOP RANGE PHILIPS CD



PHILIPS CD50 How do we do it? Unheard of improved version of the same 27 bit accumulation digital filter, but times over and is currently found in the acclaimed CD40 - 10 times more delicate and The CD50 is two models better than the CD40 and boasts over 175 '00'

SALE PRICE

£159⁹⁵

WAS £249.95



THE ORIGINAL
Coca-Cola
CANS **99p**
£

JVC-LICENSED TOP QUALITY ET80s 99p

ET80 PACK OF 2	£1.59 PACK OF 2
ET80 PACK OF 1	£2.99 PACK OF 1
ET80 PACK OF 2	£3.99 PACK OF 2

UK'S CHEAPEST TDK TAPES

HUNDREDS MORE BARGAINS IN-STORE

- **BIRMINGHAM** 100 Colston Rd, Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 2ST 0121 643 1016
- **BRISTOL** 10 Colston Rd, Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 2ST 0121 643 1016
- **CARDIFF** 10 Colston Rd, Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 2ST 0121 643 1016
- **EDMURGH** 10 Colston Rd, Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 2ST 0121 643 1016
- **LEEDS** 10 Colston Rd, Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 2ST 0121 643 1016
- **LIVERPOOL** 10 Colston Rd, Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 2ST 0121 643 1016
- **LONDON CITY** 10 Colston Rd, Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 2ST 0121 643 1016
- **LONDON NORTH** 10 Colston Rd, Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 2ST 0121 643 1016
- **LONDON WEST** 10 Colston Rd, Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 2ST 0121 643 1016
- **NEWCASTLE** 10 Colston Rd, Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 2ST 0121 643 1016
- **STOCKPORT** 10 Colston Rd, Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 2ST 0121 643 1016
- **YORK** 10 Colston Rd, Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 2ST 0121 643 1016

Bring in this ad. for a

FREE

Mazda tape or Mug

FREEPHONE 0800 591 366

Open 10am-10pm Mon-Sat 10pm-Sun

For a FREE COPY OF OUR BARGAIN-PACKED FUN CATALOGUE-PRICE LIST.

Members of the 'one of us' group contemplate life in exile

By SHEILA GUNN
POLITICAL REPORTER

MARGARET Thatcher's departure will seal the fate of the inner circle whose close association with her during the past 11 years marks them out for exile from Downing Street under a new leader.

Those honoured and reviled for their membership of the "one of us" group will look to Mrs Thatcher's resignation honours list for solace. In line for peerages, or at least knighthoods, must be her press secretary Bernard Ingham, the foreign policy adviser Charles Powell and Professor Brian Griffiths, head of her policy unit.

Others whose political influence has been inextricably linked to her tenure include Sir Ronald Miller, John Whittington and Tim Bell. As a playwright Sir Ronald added "sound-bites" to prime ministerial speeches.

At 31, John Whittington, Mrs Thatcher's political secretary, has already spent three years at Downing Street and the previous

ten years in the Conservative research department. The procurement of a safe Tory seat is likely to be his next ambition.

Although Douglas Hurd and John Major could arguably benefit from an "image-maker" if they succeed, neither is expected to call in Mrs Thatcher's favourite adviser, Tim Bell. It was to the Australian-born advertising agent that she turned for professional "packaging and presentation" during general election campaigns.

The influence of Bernard Ingham and Charles Powell crops up in any discussion about the handling of Mrs Thatcher, ranging from the Falklands to the Westland dispute.

Mr Ingham, once dubbed the "real deputy prime minister", is preparing to vacate his ground floor office fronting on Downing Street for early retirement.

Charles Powell is expected to reject offers of a senior diplomatic post overseas and go to a merchant bank. Mr Ingham said: "I



Ingham: "Happy to retire"



Powell: the whispering man



Griffiths: shake-up likely

have always said I would go to the next election with the prime minister. As far as I am concerned I am quite happy to retire now."

For the man from Hebbden Bridge who came to echo to the world's media the prime minister's philosophy, her attitudes, her much-debated "style" so exactly for 11 years, the idea of the big Yorkshireman serving a

Heseltine, a Hurd or a Major is almost unimaginable. He says of Mrs Thatcher: "I think she is a wonderful prime minister to serve because she knows her own mind. Ministers who know their own mind are a godsend to their press secretaries. My job was to represent her views. I hope I have done that with reasonable accuracy." That

comment will be regarded as a typical understatement from the man who became increasingly impatient at the questioning of Mrs Thatcher's decisions by the press.

As she rarely talked to newspaper journalists, Mr Ingham was the voice of Thatcher. His comments at the off-the-record briefings of lobby journalists had to be attributed to "government sources". His influence will continue to be felt in Whitehall for years to come as he leaves behind a network of chief information officers heading the main government departments who had come through the Ingham school.

His role sowed relations between Downing Street and the Foreign Office while many ministers have had cause to fear his influence. Labour MPs detected the influence of someone who is officially a civil servant, depicting him as an omnipotent ogre practising machiavellian arts. But his roots were in Yorkshire and the Labour party for which he once stood unsuccessfully as a local election candidate in Leeds.

He was educated at Hebbden Bridge grammar school and began his working life on the local paper. He moved to industrial reporting for the *Yorkshire Post* and *The Guardian*. He later switched to the civil service, working as a press officer for Barbara Castle, Lord Carrington, Maurice Macmillan and Tony Benn. He joined Mrs Thatcher after she had been prime minister for six months.

Charles Powell was seconded from the Foreign Office to Downing Street in 1984 and, as a civil servant, should also have remained one of Mrs Thatcher's backroom boys. Instead, he became widely known as the man whispering in her ear on the many overseas visits, signifying an unhealthy influence, most notably on Mrs Thatcher's stance to the European Community.

Labour faces life without ready-made bete noire

By PHILIP WEBSTER, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Labour leadership was yesterday coming to terms with life after Thatcher. It is already reviewing its tactics to take account of the departure from the scene of the woman many opposition MPs have regarded as their greatest electoral asset.

Some in the Labour party made the same mistake as many of Margaret Thatcher's closest supporters: they had begun to believe in her invincibility. Late on Wednesday, members of the shadow cabinet — like the shadow foreign secretary, Mr. John Grieve — were trying to stiffen her resolve — found it hard to accept that her hours were numbered.

But if their fox had been shot, Labour leaders were remarkably sanguine yesterday. By no means all the party's strategists were certain that Mrs Thatcher would have remained a liability to her party right up to election day. The all-party praise for her Commons tour de force on Thursday was genuine; more than one Labour front-bencher openly voiced bewilderment that Conservative MPs should have sacked a leader capable of such brilliance. And she had beaten them three times.

Mrs Thatcher was a formidable election-fighter who had recovered from considerable public hostility in 1981 and 1985 to win landslide general elections two years later. Labour could never quite be sure that she would not reproduce the old magic.

The other big consolation was the manner of her going. The

spectacle of the Tory party ditching a leader who had given them three election victories and then proffering her a standing ovation would have been nauseating to the public, Labour calculates. "Given her extraordinary unpopularity, you might have expected rejoicing in the streets when she went. But it has not happened. The people are bemused," a strategist said. "But Conservative MPs will find a backlash in their constituencies."

Furthermore, Mrs Thatcher's departure removes a gut politician who Labour admitted could appeal to some of its own constituency in the skilled working class, a feat that may be beyond the three pretenders to her crown.

Neil Kinnock said yesterday it was immaterial to Labour whether John Major, Michael Heseltine or Douglas Hurd won the struggle. He likened them to the "three wise monkeys" who saw, heard and spoke no evil while serving Mrs Thatcher. They were stained by the past. Given his cabinet walk-out of 1986 that charge will be more difficult to sustain against Mr Heseltine and it appears that Labour strategists feel they have most to fear from him.

On the plus side, Labour feels that Mr Heseltine, who started the leadership battle, has been tarnished by the recriminations surrounding Mrs Thatcher's removal. He may also be an easier target. Labour's election staff have been collecting some less-than-complimentary descriptions of the Henley MP made by his parliamentary colleagues. "Junk jewellery" from a backbencher, "glamour without substance" from Mrs Thatcher. All will be thrown at Mr Heseltine when the time comes.

Labour fully expects that the new prime minister will have a honeymoon period; polls suggest it has already begun. But this will occur over the Christmas period when an election could not be called in any case. The economic problems will meanwhile remain.

Labour regards Mr Major and Mr Hurd as grey men incapable of setting the pulse of the nation racing. Mr Major, they think, will be particularly cautious because if he wins he will do so with the help of many of the Thatcher faithful. But their abilities are respected. Labour campaigns over the coming weeks will seek to portray whoever wins as a man of the Thatcher years, deeply implicated in the policies which can have changed little by the time the election comes. Labour will present itself as the new generation.

Contenders 'stained by Thatcherism'

By CRAIG SETON

THE three contenders for the Tory party leadership were stained by Thatcherism, Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, said yesterday in a scathing attack on Michael Heseltine, John Major and Douglas Hurd.

It was immaterial who won the Conservative leadership, he said, and dismissed opinion polls that have suggested that any of the three candidates as leader would destroy Labour's lead in the ratings. Any improvement for the Conservatives would evaporate very quickly, he added.

Mr Kinnock, visiting Birmingham, said that none of the three candidates could unite the Conservative party. "I think the general public will continue to be bemused, some of them appalled and some delighted by the spectacle they are about to see unfolding of three people who were among the plotters to overthrow Mrs Thatcher trying again to outdo each other in pledges of loyalty and respect to her."

"I think that kind of hypocrisy nauseates everybody, whatever their politics. It also destroys their claims that they have any trustworthy characteristics."

Mr Kinnock likened the candidates to three monkeys "who have seen no evil, heard no evil and have not been prepared to say anything about evil". All three were proud of the past 11 years of Thatcherism and had been faithful adherents of policies that had brought recession, high inflation and interest rates, rising unemployment and more and more business failures, he said.

"All of them are so stained by their record of the past that they have nothing to offer for the future. In those circumstances, we are ready to take on all comers, the quicker the better." On the central policies of the economy, the three candidates were trying to outdo each other on how much they were going to build on the record of Mrs Thatcher, Mr Kinnock said. "They are building on sand."

Reality behind the unique facade

After the rebellious Sixties, the Thatcher's children generation was dismissed as dull and materialistic. Jamie Dettmer asks: were they all that different from their predecessors?

EACH generation believes itself to be unique. The beatniks and hippies of the swinging Sixties had a particularly strong sense of breaking away from their parents and seemed all at ease with Thatcher's children, that group of adults who reached voting age after Mrs Thatcher came to power in 1979 and have known no other prime minister.

Thatcher's children were accused of being hard-nosed, greedy, uncaring, amoral yuppies who brayed loudly in the wine bars that sprouted up in virtually every town centre in the country. Their symbol was the Filofax, their preferred car, the brutish-looking Porsche.

Even supporters of Mrs Thatcher worried about the behaviour being spawned by the accumulation and spread of wealth. Peregrine Worsthorne in the *Sunday Telegraph* cautioned Conservatives after the 1987 general election against "bourgeois triumphalism". He wrote: "Vulgarity rules OK and the yuppies feel confident enough to shed all inhibitions about enjoying the spoils of the class war which they think Mrs Thatcher has fought on their behalf."

The Thatcher children who had not achieved the level of affluence of their peers in the City or in the estate agencies in the High Streets were portrayed by other commentators as equally marked by selfishness. They were the lesser louts who disturbed the peace and quiet of rural England or the football hooligans who brought mayhem to the Continent. They were the new poor who felt dispossessed by Britain's political institutions, uncared for and alienated to the extent that they turned to violence.

The Labour party and liberal critics in the Church of England played on these perceptions, using them as a stick with which to beat Mrs Thatcher. She, after all, they argued, had set herself up as a revolutionary in values, the prime minister who wanted to engineer a change in social attitudes.

Social surveys throughout Mrs Thatcher's time in office suggested, however, that the picture was far more complex.

A survey conducted by Mintel in 1988 cast doubt on the free-wheeling, wine-bar image. "Thatcher's children have little time for frivolity," the report said. They wanted to be model citizens and desired a responsible place in the world of work.

The respondents in the survey rejected non-conformity. They wanted money, consumer goods and designer clothes but placed an even higher value on family relationships. This survey did not satisfy some critics, and it sparked a series of articles on how boring Thatcher's children were and how a new, dull conformism was being established.

A series of group discussions with the young and in-depth polling by *The Times* in 1986 provided a remarkable insight into Thatcher's children and



New generation: Sir Geoffrey Howe yesterday with children destined to grow up under a new regime

showed that their most characteristic political attitude was one of apathy. "This political apathy is surely something more than a listless unconcern for the issues of the day; rather a positive opting-out of the whole political process."

The good news for the prime minister was that Thatcher's children were sceptical of the power of government to improve their lives. Generally, they did not blame government for unemployment. They were prepared to get on their bikes. But any high hopes Mrs Thatcher had of having encouraging the rise of a thriving, confident generation seemed in one way to be dashed by the results of the polling by Mori in *The Times*. Thatcher's children were sceptical of their own powers to improve their lives.

More than 60 per cent of the respondents thought the prime minister was out of touch with young people. In group discussions she was highly criticised, but she also clearly had the strongest image of any party leader. The ambivalence of the young to the woman who had dominated their adult political lives was striking. The young displayed a perverse fascination with Mrs Thatcher. "I don't like her, I admire her," said one young woman. Another remarked: "I can't stand the sight of her, but her politics are quite good. I think it is good how she's kept things steady."

She came across to them as a high-school mistress, irritating and bossy but someone who had

to be listened to. She did not have to be obeyed, though, nor agreed with on some of the essential Thatcherite policies.

Like the wider electorate, Thatcher's children would seem to have rejected the idea of a low-tax economy. The evidence is in some ways anecdotal or buried in broader surveys of British social attitudes. Earlier this month, one survey showed that the enterprise culture as an idea still had not

been taken root in the mind of the British public. Eleven years of Thatcherism seems to have failed to convince Thatcher's children of the ideas of tax-cutting and reducing the responsibilities and costs of the welfare state. Maybe this reflects a belt-and-braces attitude to life: economic life might not be the government's fault, independence and consumerism are desirable, but just in case things go wrong let's have a wide and high safety net of dependency. Is it a case of two steps forward, one step back?

Teachers, and academics who have had more than one generation pass through their hands tend to the view that the Thatcher

generation has displayed differences from its predecessors. Christopher Andrew, senior tutor at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, says: "It is difficult to generalise but there have been differences. It was difficult in the 1970s to get students to think about jobs. That has changed now. Also, the acceptance of British decline prevalent in the 1970s has long gone." He has also noticed a hard-core quality among his students since 1979.

Thatcher's children may not have been as colourful as the Sixties generation. They did not feel they had to rebel against the restrictive sexual morals of their parents or demand the chance to play loud music or to dress the way they wanted to. Those battles had already been fought and won.

The Sixties had given rise to a thousand blooms of rebellion. Thatcher's children could not hope to compete with the wilder side of the beatniks and hippies, and, anyway, they had an affluence and consumerism to enjoy that the fans of the Beatles and the Rolling Stones could not have imagined.

But are the differences that marked? Both generations desired a mixture of independence and dependence. They both wanted a place in the world. Environmental concerns of the young in the Sixties and in the Eighties have been strong. Scepticism of the political process was marked in the Sixties as well. As the Bible put it: "One generation passeth away, and another generation cometh."

Uphill all the way to regain North

By RICHARD FORD
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

ONE of the charges laid against the Thatcher years was that they had seen a widening of the North-South divide, with the Conservative party winning fewer and fewer seats in major northern cities.

Yesterday, Michael Heseltine subtly introduced the argument into the leadership contest by saying that he knew the scale of the task facing the party in winning back support in the north.

The organisation had to avoid just listening to people at the centre of the activist element of the party, he said. Perhaps, he added, they had not been on the streets as he had, or as far north or to the Midlands and Scotland.

Yet the choice facing Conservative MPs is to pick a leader and election-winning from three men who all have roots deep in the Home Counties of southern England.

Conservative MPs with marginal seats in northern England, Wales and Scotland will be weighing up which candidate can win back voters who have deserted the Tory party in the past 18 months. Although Margaret Thatcher proved that populist policies could overcome the perceived disadvantages of a base in the home counties to enable the Tories to make inroads into Labour's heartlands, many MPs are worried that, without her personality, support for the party will decline.

Mr Heseltine's campaign scored a coup when the Conservative party deputy chairman, the bluff Lancastrian David Trippier, backed the former defence secretary as the next leader. Mr Trippier, MP for the marginal seat of Rossendale and Darwen, said that Mr Heseltine was the best candidate to unite the party, and a man "who has the best interests of the North at heart".

The northern marginal card will be played heavily by Mr Heseltine's supporters during the next few days as he attempts to win over supporters on the right of the party who do not form his natural constituency. Mr Heseltine's call for a review of the poll tax was aimed in particular at MPs with northern marginal seats in which voters have been hit hard by his introduction. In a party in which virtually the only question among MPs is "Who can win the next general election?", it is a powerful weapon for the Heseltine camp.

Even opponents of Mr Heseltine admit that he starts with an advantage over Mr Hurd and Mr Major in seeking support among northern and regional MPs. After the Tories' riots he was unofficially designated "Mr Merseyside", leading several Tory party professionals in the North to believe that he is the man who understands their area and can win votes.

One party agent in northern England said that on the basis of his work in Liverpool, people believed that Mr Heseltine had an affinity with the North and understood its problems better than the other two candidates. The paradox, as his opponents point out, is that Mr Heseltine is a self-made millionaire with a southern constituency, a large country estate and a home in Belgravia, London.

Yet other party professionals argue that Mr Heseltine's charisma and glamour would help the party to win votes not only in the regions, but also in southern marginal seats. During the Bradford North by-election, he was the Conservative politician most often mentioned by voters, particularly floating voters, as the man they would like to be prime minister.

Judith Duckworth, the party agent for Elnet, whose MP, Spencer Hogg, is backing Mr Heseltine, said: "From my personal contacts with voters, he is the man they want to succeed. They think that he has the common touch and listens to the voters."

In stressing the importance of the regions, Mr Heseltine is seeking support from the right of the party, a strategy rewarded yesterday by declarations of support from Thatcher loyalists such as David Evans, MP for Weymouth and Portland, and Dame Jill Knight, MP for Birmingham Edgbaston.

Goodbye prime minister, hello Countess of Finchley

By ALAN HAMILTON

MARGARET Thatcher's retirement from office could lead to the creation of the Countess of Finchley, or even the Duchess of Grantham.

Retiring prime ministers have traditionally, at a decent interval after their departure, been offered hereditary titles, although Lords Wilson and Callaghan, because of their socialist principles, accepted only life peerages. Mrs Thatcher has, however, revived the creation of hereditary peerages, belatedly bestowing the earldom of Stockton on Harold Macmillan and making Willie Whitelaw and

George Thomas, now Lord Tony, viscounts.

Only Edward Heath among recent prime ministers has no title, having declined the honour so that he could remain in the Commons. As he may feel that, with the imminent departure of his principal adversary, his life's task has now been accomplished, the earldom might, at last, beckon.

It would accord entirely with Mrs Thatcher's style to take a similar view and to decline, at least for the time being, any honour that kept her out of the Commons. Churchill, on his retirement, was offered the rare and high honour of a dukedom,

but did not care for the idea, partly, it is said, because he could not afford the lifestyle and partly because he shuddered at the thought of his son Randolph inheriting the title.

He was, however, personally honoured by the Queen with membership of the Order of the Garter, the nation's highest and most exclusive order of chivalry, as was Harold Wilson.

Were the Queen to feel that Mrs Thatcher's extraordinary tenure merited extraordinary recognition, she has in her gift the Garter, limited to 24 members, and at present without a vacancy. In spite of considerable dif-

ferences in outlook, style and personality, the world's two most powerful women have had much mutual respect and have not allowed their differences to interfere with affairs of state. Mrs Thatcher's two-minute audience on Thursday to tell the Queen of her decision stretched to half an hour.

Genealogists have suggested that a suitable championing of women's advancement would be for the first female prime minister to be granted a title that descended through the female line. That can happen in the Scottish peerage but not, at present, in England, with rare

exceptions such as the present Countess Mountbatten, whose father was granted a special provision because he had no sons.

Were Mrs Thatcher to be created Countess of Finchley in her own right, there would be no automatic title for her husband, who would remain Mr Denis Thatcher. He could, however, apply to use the courtesy title of Lord Thatcher.

Even in the event of Mrs Thatcher being granted the high honour of the Iron Duchess, there would be no automatic title for her spouse. Instead, they would be known down Dumbly way as the Duchess and Denis.

World figure who overcame Little Englander image

By ANDREW MCEWEN, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

WHEN Margaret Thatcher took the Conservative leadership in 1979, many feared that her limited knowledge of foreign affairs and "Little Englander" mentality would damage Britain's standing abroad. It was not foreseen that she would become a world figure with a status out of proportion to Britain's importance, enjoying global recognition on a par with Presidents Reagan, Bush and Gorbachev.

While her fighting spirit won admiration abroad, it was ironic that overseas policy should prove both the making and the downfall of a leader who began as a foreign affairs sceptic. But for Leopoldo Galtieri's miscalculation in 1982 she might never have had a chance to show her mettle. But for divisions on Europe she might have retained Sir Geoffrey Howe's loyalty.

Soon after she won the 1979 leadership contest, it was realised that she had a huge amount to learn but had a prodigious ability to absorb information. Her first forays abroad were not impressive, suggesting a lack of interest bordering on disdain for Europeans. Her foreign policy seemed confined to Cold War basics, robust on the North Atlantic alliance and Britain's relationship with the United States but weak in other areas. It was this which led some to feel she was xenophobic, something later disproved.

When Edward Heath took

Britain into the European Community in 1973, many on both sides of the Commons were unhappy that Britain had been forced to accept the common agricultural policy, abandoning Britain's policy of low food prices and deficiency payments for farmers. Before Mrs Thatcher took office it was clear that eventually Britain would be paying a disproportionate share of the EC budget.

Her battle for a fairer deal was ultimately successful, helped by a "soft man, hard woman" duo with Sir Geoffrey. However, the political blood spilt on the way to the Fontainebleau compromise of 1984 hardened her attitude. Her distrust of an unaccountable bureaucracy in Brussels, coupled with a Gaullist vision of a wider Europe of independent nations, emerged strongly in her speech to the College of Europe in Bruges.

Mrs Thatcher relished the uproar it caused, perhaps unaware how much Sir Geoffrey resented the tone rather than the substance of her comments. She believed she had struck a popular chord, but public opinion was changing.

The split led to Mrs Thatcher being repeatedly forced to give in after vociferously resisting moves wanted by the rest of Europe. There was humiliation, although she never acknowledged it, in her defeats on the Single European Act, which provided for majority voting on EC internal market issues,

on the first stage of Jacques Delors's plans for economic and monetary union, and on the convening of two inter-governmental conferences.

The explanation that Mrs Thatcher was unafraid to fight her corner even when defeat was inevitable had a ring of the Crimean war about it. The nickname "Iron Lady", which she had so much enjoyed, came to imply rigidity rather than strength.

The appointment of Sir Geoffrey in 1983 led to a review of foreign policy objectives which was to have great impact. A possibility of change in the Soviet Union was spotted two years before it began; Mikhail Gorbachev was correctly identified as the probable future leader six months before his appointment as general secretary. A stage-managed visit under the auspices of the Inter-Parliamentary Union gave her the opportunity to say that he was a man with whom she could do business. Her influence with President Reagan helped to bring the East-West thaw from 1985 to 1988, before the huge changes of the last two years. It was her most important foreign policy achievement.

The alliance policy of not relaxing NATO's defences until it became clear that the changes were irreversible proved effective. It is often forgotten that the government courted unpopularity by opposing the deployment of US cruise missiles in Britain. Without cruise, and the Pershing missiles deployed in Germany, the US-Soviet Intermediate Nuclear Forces (INF) treaty would probably not have been signed in 1987. Mrs Thatcher's unsuccessful attempt to persuade NATO to build a replacement for the obsolete Lance short-range missile made her appear to be trying to sustain the Cold War. However, it was probably motivated by her belief that Moscow still had some way to go and would respond faster to sticks than carrots.

The most important plank of her foreign policy has been unwavering loyalty to Washington through thick and thin. She was furious that Mr Reagan ordered the invasion of Grenada without consulting her, but did not allow her anger to damage the relationship.

When Mr Reagan wanted to use US planes based in Britain to bomb Tripoli, she gave full support. Her farewell visit to Washington at the end of his presidency suggested a warm personal relationship. She was probably hurt when it became clear that President Bush was giving more attention to Germany and France than Britain, but appeared to bounce back in August. He has acknowledged that she was a source of strength when Iraq invaded Kuwait.

Mrs Thatcher's Middle East policy has been a mixed bag. Her decision to break links with Libya in 1984 and Syria in 1986 showed that she would have no truck with sponsors of terrorism. However, she has been slow to make a change in the national interest which would have made renewed links with Syria desirable some time ago.

She will also be remembered for her defence of South Africa against international sanctions, a policy which set uneasily with her subsequent enthusiasm for sanctions against Iraq. Whether she helped bring about change in Pretoria or delayed it is hard to tell. Meanwhile, the divisions her policy caused in the Commonwealth have begun to heal.



Far cry: supporters of Margaret Thatcher in Brisbane displaying their allegiance yesterday during the first day's play in England's First Test against Australia. An abundance of Union Jacks did not help the England team, though, which was all out for 194. Match report, page 28

'Bye bye Maggie, we will miss you' but European press predicts faster EC unity

By ALICE THOMSON

"BYE Bye dear Maggie you'll be missed." The headline in Belgium's *La Dernière Heure* characterised the reaction of West European papers.

The press praised Mrs Thatcher for saving Britain from potential economic ruin in 1979, but said that her European policies could have been catastrophic. Papers also pointed out that the comfortable alliance of other member states no less disgruntled with EC policies than Mrs Thatcher had gone.

The Rome newspaper *La Repubblica* said Mrs Thatcher's resignation was a welcome relief for the march to European unification. "Her withdrawal marks a turning-point for the Continent. That character so insular, so British middle-class, has weighed on the people of the Continent much more than any other leader of the same period," the editorial said.

In France *Le Monde* asked who would defend Europeans against the encroaching power of Community institutions after Mrs Thatcher. The editorial said: "In defying the 'Europeans of Brussels' the British prime minister expressed a sentiment shared by many citizens of the Old Continent. Perhaps one will soon notice that Europe also needed a Cassandra."

In Belgium newspapers said that Mrs Thatcher's flirtation with outdated national grandeur was over. "The islanders must accept the Channel tunnel as a symbol of the link with the Continent and take a constructive pro-European course," *Het Volk*, the Ghent newspaper, said. *De Standaard* stated: "The three candidate leaders think differently about Europe and will seek a more flexible approach."

The Spanish paper *El País* said: "Observers do not expect her successor to be an ardent EC prophet, it would suffice if he does not regard the EC as a threat." However, the monarchist *ABC* said: "Thatcher confronted a concept of Europe which other members reject as well while remaining comfortably silent. Now Thatcherism will begin to emerge in The Hague and Bonn, in Rome and Madrid."

The French left rejoiced over the Mrs Thatcher's demise, arguing that it would usher in a new era for European integration, but conservatives were cautious. "Sometimes we were very happy to leave her to fight for us," *Le Figaro* mused, "now we will have to go forward unprotected."

The Eastern European press

looked to a Continent without Mrs Thatcher with even more trepidation. The Hungarian socialist daily *Nepszabadsag* said: "Eastern Europe has lost a good man [sic], only Maggie knew where to buy garlic and red pepper in Budapest," and hoped the new prime minister would continue in her vein. The Czechoslovak papers hailed Mrs Thatcher's support

for human rights in Eastern Europe. "Mrs Thatcher's departure will sadden many people in Eastern Europe for whom she has always symbolised their hopes of freedom and prosperity based on a market economy," the daily *Lidove Noviny* said.

China reacted blandly to the resignation, describing the prime minister's role in Sino-

British relations as positive. The foreign ministry said: "We hope that Sino-British relations will be further developed and strengthened on the current basis and we believe that we can work with any of the candidates."

However, the announcement gave the official *People's Daily* the chance to voice its hardest ideological line in recent months. In last year's pro-democracy demonstrations in Peking, students praised Mrs Thatcher as a leader dedicated to defeating communism. The editorial attacked "these hostile Western forces" and called on all members of the Chinese Communist party to "recognise profoundly the new historical inevitability that socialism will replace capitalism."

In Hong Kong officials are anxiously awaiting the next round in the leadership contest. Douglas Hurd, based in Peking from 1954 to 1956, is seen as the best informed candidate on the colony's affairs. "There's no doubt that Hurd would be the favourite for people here," one official said. "Hurd has proven links with China, but Major's links with this part of the world are based on his brief tenure as junior Foreign Office minister." Copies of Mr Hurd's political thriller, *The Eye of the Dragon*, are being snapped up. Written in the 1970s, it is

based on a Chinese plot to overcome the British colony by force.

South Africa, one of Mrs Thatcher's staunchest supporters, seemed little perturbed. *Beeld*, the leading Afrikaans daily said: "While it was of critical importance for the past few years who sat in 10 Downing Street, South Africa's international position since February has improved so much it is no longer of real importance."

In Argentina the press ran the resignation with little reference to the Falklands conflict. The evening paper *Crónica* spoke of Mrs Thatcher's "political menopause".

© In Dubai Gulf expatriates are crying into their beer at Thatcher's bar, mourning the downfall of the Iron Lady (Reuters photo).

As drinkers pondered the end of an era, the manager Sam Younger said: "We hope they [the owners] do not change the name. We threatened to walk out if they called it Heseltine's." Regulars say the bar's menu sounds like a policy paper for Thatcherism — solid fare sometimes difficult to stomach, but good for you in the end. They are wondering what will happen to the Super Monster Thatcher Burger, the Thatcher Party Plan (Food For Special Occasions), and the Chequers Lunch.



Breaking the ice: Gorbachev and Reagan at Reykjavik

Little US concern at successor's aims

WITH her vision, her intellect and her commanding presence, Mrs Thatcher dominated Britain's politics and its relations with the United States for more than a decade. Americans will miss her but there is no reason for concern about the likely direction of British policies after her.

On Thursday, she bowed to a Conservative party revolt and resigned. The swiftness of her fall and the competition to succeed her guarantees some unpredictability.

On the issues that affect America most, however, substantial continuity is assured under any of the contenders — Michael Heseltine, Douglas Hurd or John Major — or even under Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader.

Washington's most urgent concern is the Persian Gulf. Saddam Hussein would be foolhardy to anticipate any weakening of British resolve. Tom King, the defence secretary, sent a powerful signal by announcing the dispatch of 16,000 more troops, doubling the British contingent.

Mr Heseltine once served Mrs Thatcher as defence secretary. Mr Hurd is foreign secretary, and Mr Major

served in that post before becoming chancellor. All are tough-minded Tories.

On the Opposition, Mr Kinnock has steered Labour away from its flirtation with unilateral nuclear disarmament, winning the respect of Washington. Labour has also shed its enthusiasm for nationalism.

Policy changes are far more likely on the two issues that brought Mrs Thatcher down: Britain's integration into the European Community and the poll tax. While taxation is a purely domestic concern, America can only welcome a turn away from Mrs Thatcher's Little England nationalism, which so divided her from her Tory colleagues.

Convinced that her West European partners were scheming to ensure free-market Britain in a crypto-socialist regulation, she behaved as though Britain were still an economic superpower. That stubbornness threatened to undermine her greatest achievement: convincing Britain's private-sector entrepreneurs that they could no longer live off past glories and must adapt to competitive realities.

Tories' switch brings relief to Bonn

From IAN MURRAY IN BONN

AT ABOUT the time that news of Mrs Thatcher's resignation was flashed round the world a messenger in the Bundestag came up to where Hans-Dietrich Genscher was sitting next to Helmut Kohl, the chancellor, and whispered in the foreign minister's ear.

With a broad grin on his face, Herr Genscher turned to the chancellor and gave him the thumbs-up sign. Nobody is saying what the messenger whispered — it may have been simply that hunch was nearly ready — but there is little secret about the fact that the prime minister's departure from the European negotiating table was viewed with particular relief in Bonn.

That is not because she was regarded as obstructionist any longer but because Germany considers that she had succeeded in marginalising Britain to the extent that nobody listened to her arguments any more.

There is no doubt in Bonn that if Britain does not agree to join the other 11 EC members in a currency union, then they will simply create

their own treaty among themselves and leave Britain out. Such leading politicians as Herr Kohl and Herr Genscher have decided to make no comment until a new British leader is chosen. Asked if someone could make a kind of farewell tribute to Mrs Thatcher, an official said: "We would find it rather difficult to do that."

Bonn expects Douglas Hurd to be chosen as Conservative leader, but that is largely because he is the only one of the three candidates known here. He made an excellent impression in EC negotiations, where officials noted that, unlike Sir Geoffrey Howe, he confidently took decisions without referring back to London for advice. As prime minister he is expected to be able to bring Britain back into a leading position inside the community.

Mr Heseltine is little known, but since his challenge to Mrs Thatcher he has received considerable publicity. After his recent speech in Hamburg in which he insisted on Britain remaining closely

linked to economic union and rejected any idea of a "hard euro", he is regarded as being a considerable improvement on Mrs Thatcher.

John Major is the least known of all, and because he is the architect of the "hard euro" plan is viewed with the most suspicion. The Bundestag does not like the idea and the government here dutifully accepts that as the correct assessment.

The Bundestag rules for creating a European central bank and for economic and currency union are the ones that Germany means to persuade the community to accept, confident that the success of the German financial institution will make it the undisputed expert when negotiations get under way.

Mr Major's lack of experience and the fact that he is seen to be Mrs Thatcher's personal choice count against him in Bonn, although officials accept that as the most expert candidate on the economy, he might be the man Britain needs most at this time. Whoever is chosen will

have the difficult task of proving that he is not following in Mrs Thatcher's footsteps in Europe.

Although she won great respect and admiration in Bonn over the years, her statements about German unification caused considerable offence and led to bad feeling against Britain right up to the last round of negotiations on international recognition of a unified Germany's sovereignty.

The prime minister's well-publicised comment last November that reunification "is not on the agenda" is still quoted in the chancellery as an example of her shortsightedness. Her view that reunification would take ten to 15 years has been much ridiculed.

There was considerable relief when she sent a warm message of congratulation to Herr Kohl on the electoral success of his Christian Democrats in east Germany and when she praised the resolution on the western Polish frontier, but the overriding impression she has given is of someone who both fears and dislikes Germans.

NUMBER VII: FULL AHEAD - SLOW (OR TAKING THE LOW-LOADER ROAD HOME).

GLENMORANGIE

10 YEARS OLD
SINGLE HIGHLAND MALT
SCOTCH WHISKY

Tom Anderson
SEDELY negotiates
the ageing driveway,
three days a week,
taking twelve gently jostling casks of Glenmorangie
malt whisky down to the warehouses where they
will spend their 10 year maturation beside the Dornoch Firth.
Haste is NOT a prerequisite of a Glenmorangie tractorman.

HANDCRAFTED by the SIXTEEN MEN of TAIN.

Hostility not passion 'the key to vicar's relationship'

By PAUL WILKINSON

THE passionate relationship alleged between a country vicar and his curate's wife was actually one of hostility, a Church of England consistory court was told yesterday.

Judith Hughes, counsel for the accused priest, the Rev Thomas Tyler, said that far from there being a passionate relationship with the woman, Susan Whitmore, clear antagonism had built up over the years prior to the allegations being made. "The allegations are inconsistent with that," she said.

Mr Tyler, a father-of-four and vicar of St Peter's at Henfield, West Sussex, for the past 12 years, has denied a charge of conduct unbecoming a clerk in holy orders in that he committed adultery with Mrs Whitmore. He is also accused of adultery with another of his parishioners, Barbara Edwards, a married woman with two children.

When the case opened on Tuesday in a Chichester church hall, the prosecution said that Mr Tyler, aged 50, had begun a two-year affair with Mrs Whitmore, a woman now in her fifties, soon after he took over the parish in 1978. When that relationship allegedly cooled he seduced Mrs Edwards, who had turned to the church for support when her baby died. The court was told that adultery had been committed at the women's homes, the vicarage, and in the vicar's car.

All the evidence is being heard in camera after a ruling

by Judge Quentin Edwards, QC, the chancellor of the Chichester diocese, who is presiding over the hearing. He said that the witnesses could be embarrassed at speaking in public and that the interests of justice might be prejudiced. Only opening and closing statements by counsel and his summing-up would be heard in open court.

Yesterday, in her opening address for the defence, Miss Hughes said that to commit adultery required both inclination and opportunity. "My client will give evidence that he had no inclination towards either of the women."

Mr Tyler's relationship with Mrs Whitmore had been unfriendly. About his relationship with Mrs Edwards, Miss Hughes said: "You will hear he was simply visiting her, fulfilling his role as vicar of the parish, administering pastoral care at a time of tragedy."

Mr Tyler admitted visiting their homes on several occasions and being with Mrs Whitmore at the vicarage. She had also been with him in his car. He would give evidence, however, on the busy nature of the women's homes, and he and his wife would give similar evidence regarding the vicarage.

Miss Hughes continued: "Certain evidence has been given about physical characteristics. You will hear evidence about this from my client." The hearing resumes on Monday.

Cromwell gets a model home

By JOHN YOUNG

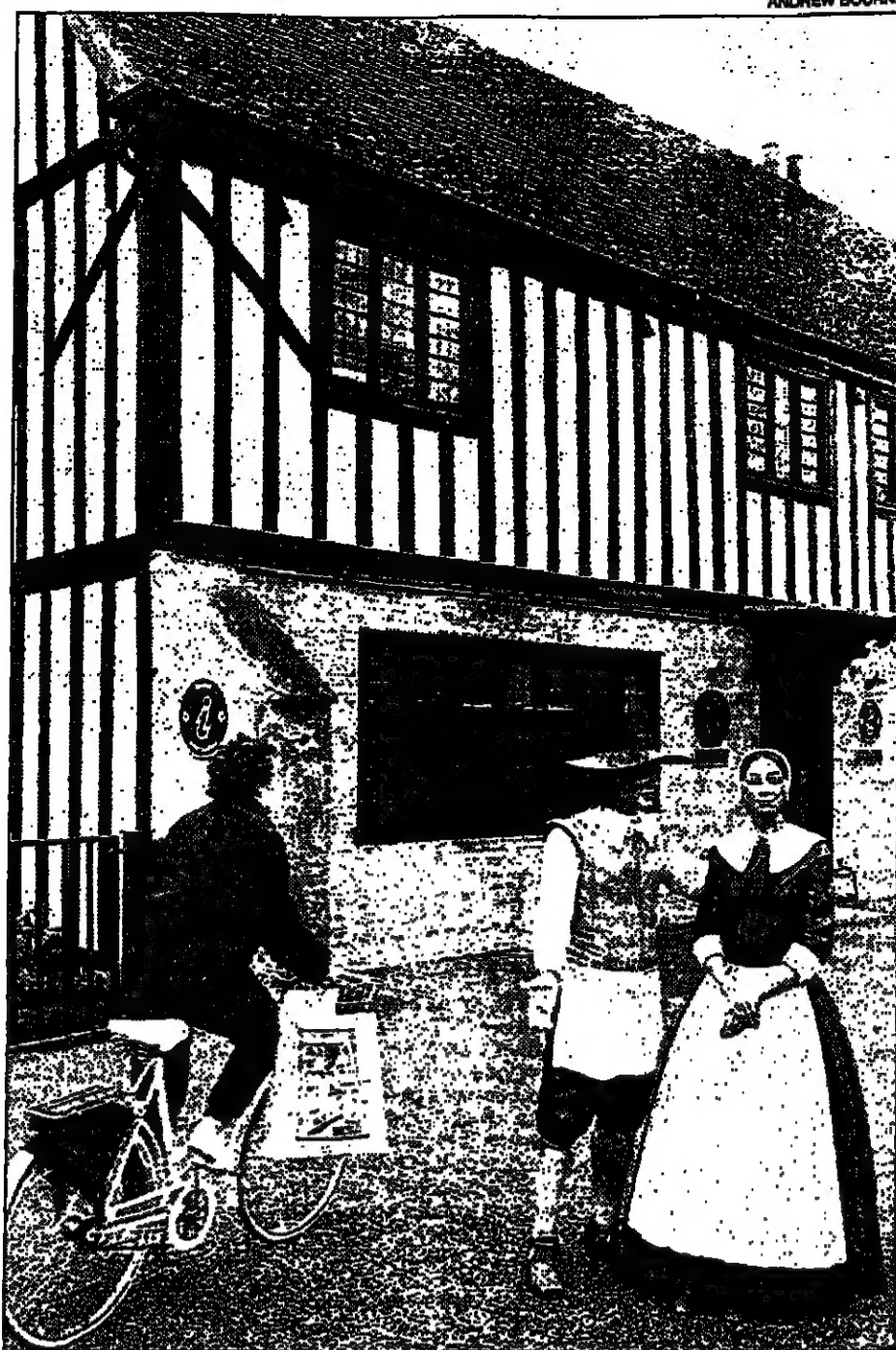
TWO hundred yards from Ely Cathedral, the house where Oliver Cromwell lived for 10 years, including the early part of the Civil War, will be re-opened to the public as a combined information and heritage centre on December 6. With a nice twist of historical irony, the ceremony will be performed by the Duke of Gloucester, whose distant ancestor, Charles I, was executed on the orders of the Great Protector.

In 1636 Cromwell inherited the Cambridgeshire estate from his uncle, Sir Thomas Steward, and with it the responsibility of collecting tithes to pay for the upkeep of the two local parishes. His zeal in defending the rights of the farmers against landowners earned him the name Lord of the Fens, and in 1640 he was elected member of parliament for Cambridge.

The earliest part of the house dates from the 13th century but there have been numerous alterations and additions. For most of this century the house was used as a vicarage. It was bought four years ago by East Cambridgeshire district council, which spent more than £300,000 on repairs and restoration. The centre is a joint venture between the council and History and Heritage Ltd, which specialises in historical re-creations.

The house has been furnished in 17th century style and life-size figures of Cromwell and his wife are seated in the parlour. There is also an audio-visual film on the life of the Great Protector and his association with the house.

The organisers hope the house will attract tens of thousands of visitors a year paying an admission charge of £1.



Model couple: Oliver Cromwell and his wife Elizabeth stand outside their restored home in Ely. £300,000 has been spent refurbishing the house in 17th-century style

University heads claim win on funding

By JOHN O'LEARY
HIGHER EDUCATION
CORRESPONDENT

VICTORY was claimed by vice-chancellors yesterday in their dispute with the Universities' Funding Council (UFC) over bids for student places for the next four years.

The council decided last month to reject all the universities' bids because too few undercut the council's "guide prices". The decision meant the temporary abandonment of the four-year planning cycle the council had just introduced. The vice-chancellors reacted furiously to the announcement, saying it placed their expansion plans in jeopardy and accusing the funding council of acting irresponsibly. A delegation met the council's senior officials to press them to cut the delay.

Yesterday the council announced that it would make provisional allocations next March for the three years from 1992 to 1995, only a month after the announcement of detailed plans for 1991-92. The council undertook to consult the universities on the provisional numbers and to comment on the planning statements they submitted under the bidding system.

Sir Edward Parkes, chairman of the vice-chancellors' committee, said: "This is very much to be welcomed. It is more important for universities to know what the UFC thinks of their plans in terms of inherent sense and the national picture than to know precisely when different bits will be available."

Ralph Kanter, a non-executive director of the National Bus Company, has been appointed to the board of the government's student loans company.

Haughey makes plea for ancient gold collar

Charles Haughey, the Irish prime minister, yesterday demanded the return of a Bronze Age collar that he claims had been illegally excavated in the Irish Republic and exported, and which is being held at Christie's in London.

Mr Haughey said that the collar, or lunula, which is of sheet-gold and could be worth up to £20,000, had been the subject of enquiries by the Irish authorities since 1975.

Christie's said a Northern Ireland resident, who said he had been offered £12,000 for it by a Dublin museum and wanted to know its value, had brought in the item.

Collecting, page 21

SOS number for EC states

Countries in the European Community will soon use a single emergency number - 112 - to call the police, fire brigade or an ambulance, ministers decided yesterday. The number should be available by the end of 1992, although countries with problems setting it up will have until the end of 1996 to introduce it.

The measure is aimed mainly at tourists, who have, at present, to look up the emergency number in the country they are visiting before making an emergency call.

Stance on Gatt

First proposals from the European Commission for the EC position in Gatt negotiations are expected to be sent to the council of ministers soon. John Gummer, minister of agriculture, told the Commons yesterday. He said that it was possible the proposals would be formulated by the end of the year when there might be further development of EC set-aside and extensification schemes.

Pacifist jailed

A pacifist who wanted to pay a tax bill in bread instead of money was jailed yesterday for 28 days by Newcastle upon Tyne county court. Nigel Wild, aged 33, of Brighton Grove, Newcastle, has owed £155 in tax since 1985. Last month, he offered to pay with bread "on a point of principle" because part of the £155 would be used for military purposes, but was given 28 days to pay or face jail.

Duke's case

Mr Justice Harman yesterday reserved judgment until Monday morning in the High Court case in which the Duke of Westminster is trying to prevent Westminster city council offering for sale flats in Pimlico on land leased to the council by a previous duke for use by working-class occupants. Gavin Lightman, QC, for the duke, had said he wanted low-rent accommodation to remain available.

Experts doubtful on tagging tests

By QUENTIN COWDRY, HOME AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

PROSECUTORS, magistrates and probation officers are sceptical about "tagging" as a way of reducing custodial remands, according to a Home Office evaluation of the electronic monitoring experiment conducted last year.

The report, published yesterday, says that criminal justice experts believe that if tagging has a future it lies in providing the courts with an extra bail condition or in being linked to a court sentence such as a curfew order.

During the experiment, defendants could only be tagged as a strict alternative to a custodial remand, a requirement that sharply reduced the pool of defendants who could be fitted with the ankle transmitters while they awaited trials. Fifty people

were tagged during the seven-month experiment conducted at three magistrates' courts, about a third of the number ministers had hoped for. Of those, 28 broke their bail terms, some for committing new offences.

John Patten, Home Office minister of state, declined to comment on the low number of tagged defendants, instead highlighting how quickly and accurately the technology had registered breaches of bail.

He said: "Not every offender will be suitable for monitoring. But as an additional tool for the courts it will offer many people who might otherwise be sent to prison the opportunity to serve their sentence in the community." Most of those tagged found it a welcome alternative, he said.

If you'd like to see a lower interest rate for larger mortgages sign below.

The Woolwich has lowered its interest rate on mortgages of £60,000 or more.

The Woolwich Premier Mortgage rate has been reduced to 13.75% (Typical APR 14.7% variable). That's 0.75% p.a. lower than our normal variable endowment rate. And as they say, every little helps.

Woolwich Premier Mortgage

£60,000 and over in England and Wales.	13.75%
£40,000 and over in Scotland and Northern Ireland.	(Typical APR 14.7% variable)

This means that at current rates your monthly net interest payment* on a loan of £60,000 would be £601.56 under a Premier Mortgage, compared with £634.38 under our normal endowment mortgage. A difference of £32.82.

*Net of repayments on the basis of a 25% rate on the first £30,000 of the mortgage.

A deal this good may not last, so it will pay you to act quickly. Call in at your nearest Woolwich branch, or ring us free, on 0800 444 888, anytime.

Or send the coupon to: Woolwich Building Society, Dept. PM, Freepost, Bexleyheath, Kent DA7 6BR.

No wonder you're with the Woolwich.

Please send me details of Woolwich Premier Mortgages. I am looking for a mortgage of £..... (£60,000 or more in England and Wales; £40,000 or more in Scotland and Northern Ireland.)

Signed.....

Surname.....

First Name.....

Address.....

Postcode..... Telephone.....

WOOLWICH
— BUILDING SOCIETY —

World chess decider may come on Christmas Eve

By RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

PLAY resumes today in Lyons, France, in the World Chess Championship, with a strong possibility that the deciding game between the two Soviet grandmasters and old rivals, Gary Kasparov and Anatoly Karpov, could be played on Christmas Eve.

The score after 12 matches in New York stands at six points each, and Karpov, the challenger, will resume with the advantage of the white pieces when play starts up again for the record \$3 million (£1.54m) prize purse, five-eighths of which goes to the first player to score 12½ points out of a maximum 24.

The rivals will play on Saturdays, Mondays and Wednesdays, but an anarchistic ruling allows each to take two days off with no more than a few hours' warning. Since the Soviet people do not attach the same importance to Christmas as in the West, the champions have decided to play throughout the festive season if no positive result has been reached.

Lyons has been chosen as the venue for the second half of the tournament partly because France has a rich chess tradition, with two former Soviet world champions, Alexander Alekhine and Boris Spassky, making Paris their home.

One other reason is because Michel Noir, mayor of Lyons, however, did not get the match without almost falling foul of the political rivalry between the World Chess Federation, led by its president, Florencio Campomanes, and the top players' trade union, the Grandmaster Association, of which Kasparov was president until his recent resignation.



Karpov: resumes with advantage of white



Kasparov: has to improve in second half

At the World Chess Federation annual congress at Puerto Rico in 1989, the federation decided, without consulting the players, to reject a bid from New Zealand and decreed that the match would be held exclusively in Lyons. Kasparov, Karpov and the leading challengers, including Jon Speelman of Britain, were unhappy, and the Grandmaster Association demanded a voice in deciding the location of the championship. After lengthy negotiation the match was shared between Lyons and New York.

The even score from the New York leg belies the ferocious chessboard duel. Both players have made devastating sacrifices and delivered fierce knock-out blows in a rewriting of the chess theory books.

Kasparov has minted a new idea of "sacrifice", teetering on the abyss of what seemed certain defeat only to recover brilliantly. But interspersed with these brilliant ideas have come some terrible errors. Among them was his appalling queen move 27... Qc5 in game seven, which at once wrecked his position.

This move was so bad that it will go down in any future history of blunders by top players.

Karpov in New York took the art of defence to new heights, introducing stinging and lethal counter-attacks. He has also missed chances, however, and though starting as the underdog he is widely perceived to be unlikely not to be leading.

The New York leg has confounded predictions that Kasparov would win this fifth clash of the titans in five years by a large margin. There is a substantial rating difference between the two, which may have side-tracked the experts, but match play is very different from tournaments against a broad field of opponents.

Since their fourth match in 1987, Kasparov has smashed through Fischer's international rating record of 2,785 with a new high of 2,800. Karpov's rating of 2,730 is impressive, but way behind. Still, if Kasparov does not pull himself together in the second half and banish the blunders which bedevilled his play from game 6 in New York, the chess world may well have a new champion by Christmas.

ter may
as Eve

the quail
and the
wild turkey,
the giant
cactus and
the palo
verdes, they
all miss me.
I miss them,
too. I want
to go back
to them."

Gerónimo
Chiricahua Apache

TWA
To the State of Arizona.

Boxer accepts £50,000 over action for false imprisonment

By DAVID YOUNG

THE former world light-middle-weight boxing champion, Maurice Hope, accepted £50,000 agreed High Court damages from the Metropolitan Police yesterday in settlement of his action against the force for alleged false imprisonment and malicious prosecution.

The 38-year-old boxer, who manages Antigua's national team and was made a MBE in recognition of his services to the sport, said that the damages and about £20,000 in costs would be invested to help others who found themselves in a similar predicament.

His counsel, Robert Englehart, QC, told the hearing before Mr Justice French that Mr Hope was charged with an offence under the Misuse of Drugs Act after he was arrested in October 1988 and accused of smoking cannabis and eating packets of cannabis in his car. The Scotland Yard press bureau was told of his arrest and details appeared in newspapers in

Court bans harassment findings

By QUENTIN COWDRY
HOME AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

THE Greater Manchester Police Authority was banned by the High Court yesterday from disclosing details of the findings of an independent investigation into allegations that a student had been severely harassed by police.

Mr Justice Macpherson said the Police Complaints Authority, which supervised the enquiry, was entitled to insist that a letter it sent to the student, stating its conclusions, was confidential. The court had been told that the police watchdog's work could be undermined if its reports were published without complainants' consent.

The letter had been sent to Sarah Hollis, who was among demonstrators in 1985 when Sir Leon Brittan, then home secretary, visited Manchester university. A copy was mistakenly sent to councillors in Manchester.

Britain and abroad. In June 1989, however, the Crown offered no evidence when Mr Hope appeared at the Inner London Crown Court, and the judge said that he could leave "without any stain on his character".

In August he issued proceedings claiming damages, including aggravated and exemplary damages, for false imprisonment and malicious prosecution. The Metropolitan commissioner denied his claims. The action was settled yesterday without prejudice to the issue of liability.

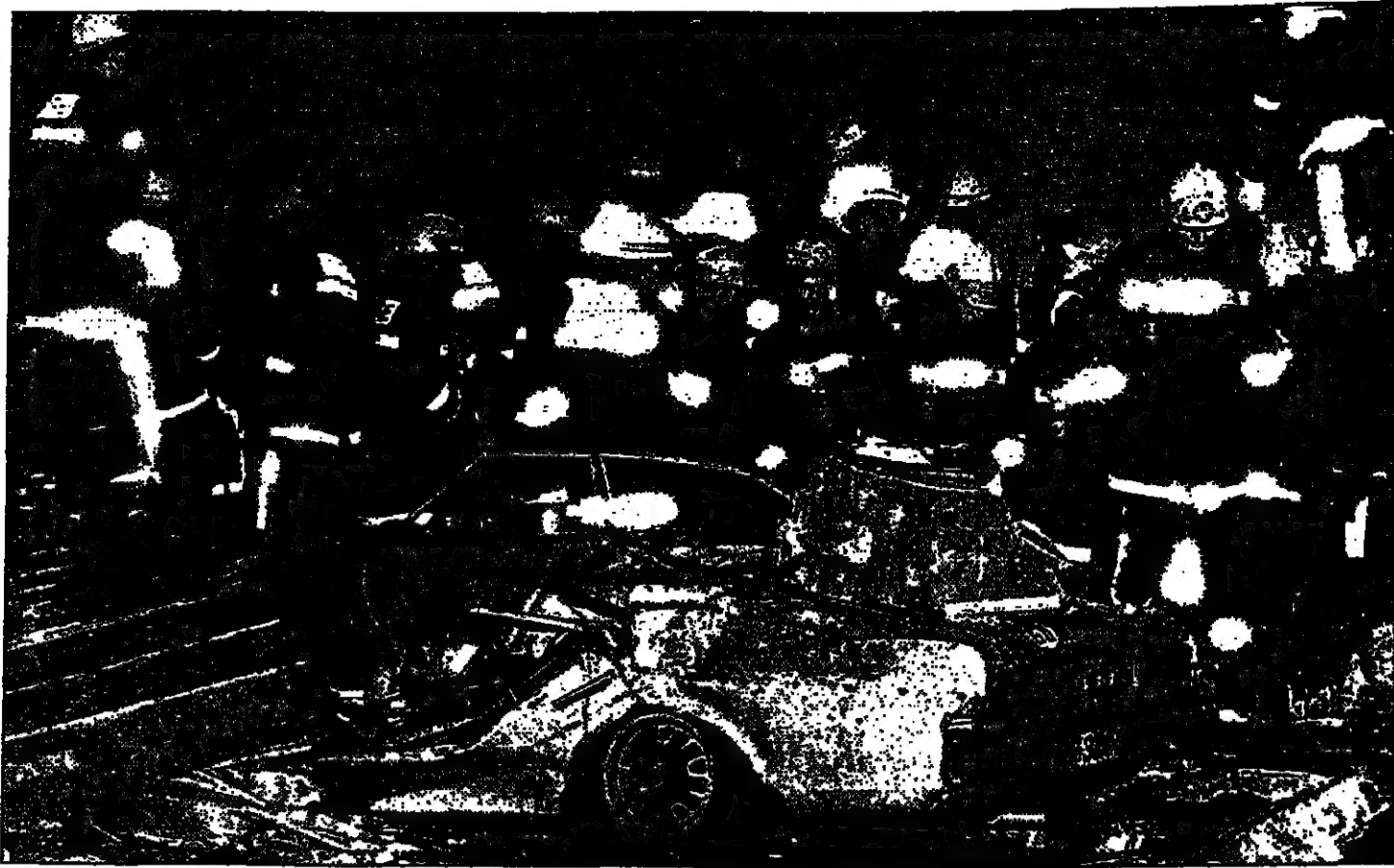
Mr Englehart said that Mr Hope had maintained from the outset that he had never smoked cannabis or any other illegal substance, and would never do so. The allegations had caused him and his family particular hurt and embarrassment. He was saddened by the affair because he respected the police.

Afterwards, Mr Hope said he believed that his arrest had been racially motivated. He was "pleased and not pleased" with the settlement. "The money helps but it is not the main priority here. I like to think of the youngsters coming up in society - if it happened to Maurice Hope, how about them?"

Damages totalling £233,054 were awarded against the Metropolitan Police in the High Court last year, compared with £104,336 in 1988, not including out-of-court settlements.



Hope believes arrest was racially motivated



Firemen searching the rubble early yesterday after an explosion in a derelict house in Bayswater, central London, killed one man, injured two others and wrecked ten cars. Police, who found four petrol cans near by,

believe the blast was caused deliberately. The dead man, who was found by thermal imaging equipment, has not yet been identified. Andrew Camp, of Northwood, northwest London, was seriously injured and Michael

Pegg, of St Albans, Hertfordshire, slightly hurt. They are thought to have been trapped in a car. Firemen believe squatters may have been living in the house. The blast also damaged a block of flats next door.

BSkyB opts for Sky staff at top

By MELINDA WITTSTOCK
MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH Sky Broadcasting unveiled a new management team yesterday composed of just three people from BSB and 11 from Sky.

The merged group has chosen not to replace Ian Clubb, the BSB deputy chief executive who resigned as joint deputy managing director of BSkyB.

Sky's Gary Davey has been appointed the sole deputy managing director as well as director of programmes.

The only BSB senior managers that remain are Peter Clarke, as company secretary, Jennifer Haigh, as director of personnel, and Ellis Griffiths, as director of engineering.

The group has just received permission from the Independent Broadcasting Authority to broadcast a mixed Sky-BSB service on the BSB Marco Polo satellite for an indefinite period starting on December 3.

Fishermen fear the hidden menace of 'submarine alley'

By KERRY GILL

THE huge dark shape of a submarine on the grey waters of the Firth of Clyde has been an awesome, if familiar, sight for decades. It is their menacing underwater presence, however, that is the constant fear of local fishermen.

The government yesterday admitted that a Royal Navy submarine was responsible for dragging a fishing boat to the seabed with the loss of four lives. It was a bitter irony that James Russell, skipper of the stricken fishing vessel Antares, spent much of his time trying to sort out the problem of submarines jostling for space with vulnerable fishing boats off the west coast of Scotland.

Mr Russell, in common with many other fishermen, had feared a fatal collision between a submarine and a boat. Like many others, he believed that submarines were responsible for other fishermen's deaths in the so-called "submarine alley", the waters

stretching from the southern Irish Sea to the northwest of Scotland.

In the early hours of Thursday the fishermen's fears were proved correct. The Antares, its gear snagged by HMS Trenchant, a hunter killer submarine based at Faslane, sank within seconds, drowning Mr Russell and his three crewmen.

Over the past ten years, there have been a number of incidents in which fishing vessels have sunk with loss of life. In many, submarines were suspected of being responsible. Not for nothing has Scotland's west coast been described as another "Bermuda triangle".

William Wareham, aged 54, a Campbeltown skipper and member of the Scottish Fishermen's Organisation, said yesterday: "We have been working under this threat for years. With so many boats fishing in the Clyde, it was bound to happen some time. We have been trying to tell the government that, but it has been ignored.

Lives are being lost. It is a tragedy that could be avoided. We have to have a government enquiry. So many boats have been lost without trace, and it will happen again."

With bigger and more powerful fishing vessels being built, fishing tackle is stronger. Snagged fishing wires no longer snap, and, fishermen claim, this leads to boats being lost within seconds.

The Celtic League, based in the Isle of Man, has kept records of boats lost in mysterious circumstances, many of them suddenly disappearing in calm waters where submarines are known to operate. It has logged vessels lost in "submarine alley" leading to more than 30 fatalities.

In 1982, the trawler Sharelga was suddenly dragged backwards at speed for ten miles. She capsized, but her five crew were saved by other vessels. The Ministry of Defence paid out £200,000 for the loss of the Sharelga.

Aids-like virus 'may cause arthritis'

By NIGEL HAWKES
SCIENCE EDITOR

AN Aids-like virus may be the cause of some types of rheumatoid arthritis and similar conditions thought to be caused by faults in the body's immune system.

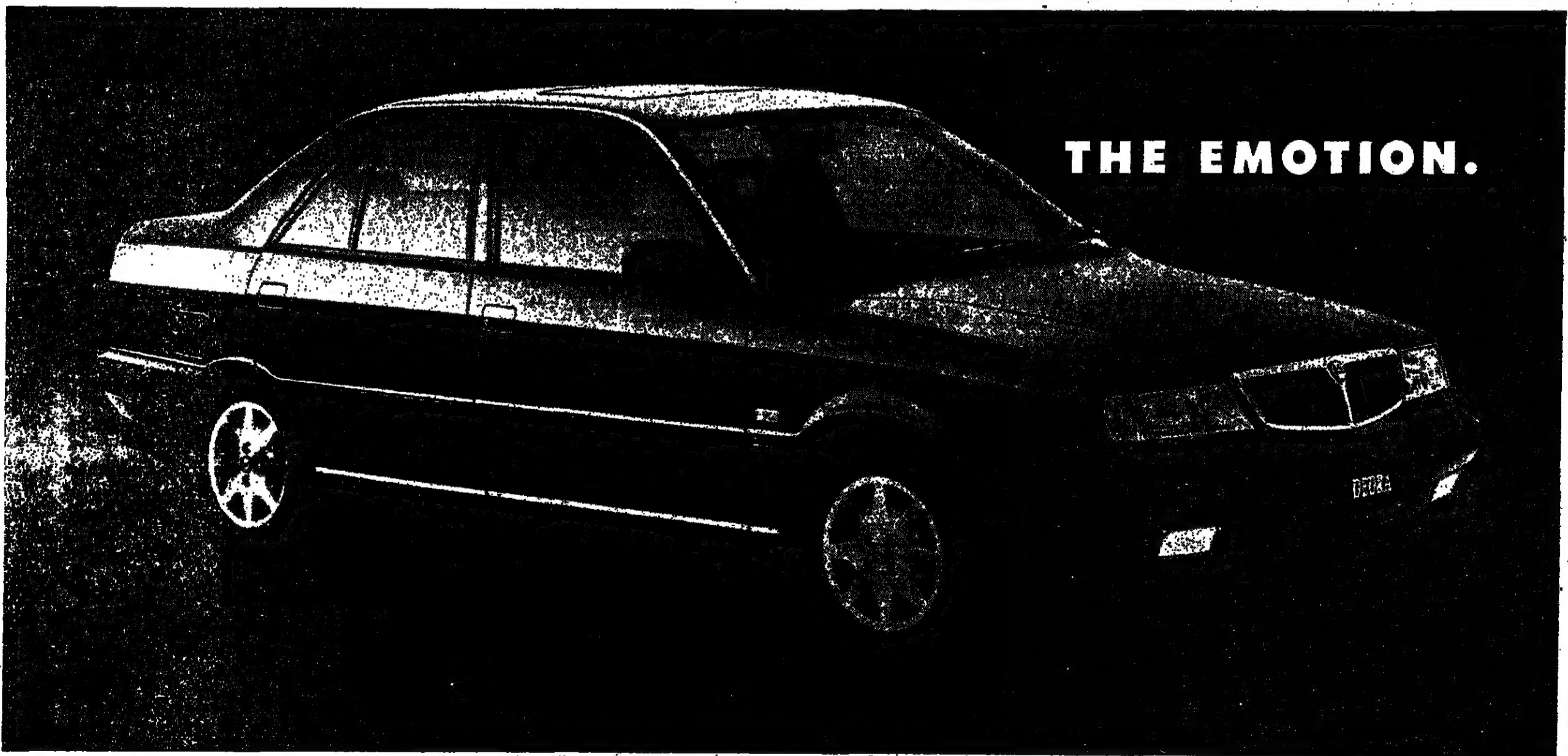
Robert Garry, of Tulane university medical school, Louisiana, reports in *Science* the discovery of a retrovirus in patients with Sjogren's syndrome, in which the eyes and mouth become very dry. It is often found in conjunction with rheumatoid arthritis and lupus erythematosus, a disease of the connective tissue. His results suggest that this retrovirus may be the reason for all these conditions, believed to be caused by the body's immune system attacking its own tissues. The HIV virus also damages the immune system, and patients with the three conditions studied by Dr Garry often show positive when their blood is tested for Aids, though they are not infected.

He found particles similar to those of the HIV virus in lip tissues taken from six patients suffering from Sjogren's syndrome. He believes he has found a new retrovirus, a type of infectious agent which copies itself by a process running in the reverse direction to normal viruses. The other two human retroviruses so far found are HIV and an agent causing a form of leukaemia. If Dr Garry can identify the retrovirus structure, work could begin on finding a vaccine to counter it.

● A baby's risk of contracting a hereditary cancer has for the first time been assessed, while it was still in the womb. The test was negative and the mother continued with the pregnancy.

The test, by Joy Delahanty at the Galton laboratory of University College London, was made possible by the identification of the genes causing a form of colon cancer. People carrying those genes are virtually certain to develop a cancer that could kill them in middle age. The condition is known as familial polyposis. Carriers form hundreds or thousands of tiny polyps in the colon or rectum.

Most are benign, but it is virtually certain at least one will develop into a tumour by the age of 40. The father of the woman tested by Dr Delahanty had died of bowel cancer at the age of 38 and she had her colon removed in her late teens.



THE EMOTION.

THE LOGIC.

The new Lancia Dedra is utterly faithful to the sporting heritage and values of Lancia's founder, Vincenzo Lancia. So, not surprisingly, it's a car that stirs the emotions.

The Dedra appeals to the head as well as the heart. Because for life-long protection, all exterior panels are made from 100% galvanised steel - backed up with a 6-year anti-perforation warranty.

The Dedra has rally proven durability - Lancia have won the World Rally championship no less than nine times - with four consecutive wins in 1987, 1988, 1989 and 1990.

Specification? All versions have fuel injection. Power assisted steering.

Light alloy sports wheels and low profile tyres. Polished rosewood dashboard. Central Locking. And electric front windows with 'one touch' facilities.

In addition they have a stereo system with double anti-theft facility. Twin body colour electric door mirrors with demist. Tinted glass. An electronic check control panel. As well as a rev counter. Front fog lights. Height adjustable driver's seat and steering column. Front and rear head restraints. Centre folding front and rear armrests and rear sun blinds.

A wind cheating Cd factor of 0.29 contributes to exceptional fuel economy on unleaded petrol.

Top speeds range from 112 to 124 mph and ABS is available on all models. And BMW certainly can't match all that.

And every Lancia comes with a very important extra: total peace of mind.

This is because we cover you comprehensively with a 1-year manufacturer's warranty and Lancia AA 'Gold Star Service' with Homestart, Relay Recovery and 5 Star Service for continental motoring.

The Lancia Dedra from £11,825* to £15,895*. Now you can afford to let your emotions run away with you.

*The Dedra is available in 1.6, 1.8 and 2.0 litre versions. Lancia AA 'Gold Star Service' is available on all models. Lancia AA 'Gold Star Service' is available on all models. Lancia AA 'Gold Star Service' is available on all models.

1.6 litre 1.8 litre 2.0 litre

1.6 litre 1.8 litre 2.0 litre

1.6 litre 1.8 litre 2.0 litre

1.6 litre 1.8 litre 2.0 litre

1.6 litre 1.8 litre 2.0 litre

1.6 litre 1.8 litre 2.0 litre

1.6 litre 1.8 litre 2.0 litre

1.6 litre 1.8 litre 2.0 litre

1.6 litre 1.8 litre 2.0 litre

1.6 litre 1.8 litre 2.0 litre

1.6 litre 1.8 litre 2.0 litre

1.6 litre 1.8 litre 2.0 litre



DEDRA. THE NEW LANCIA



هكذا من الأمل

Iraq shows its confidence by lifting curfew in Kuwait

FROM NICHOLAS BEESTON IN BAGHDAD

THE Iraqi government has lifted the curfew in Kuwait amid increasing signs of confidence here that the anti-Iraq coalition has been weakened. The resignation of Mrs Thatcher has contributed to a growing belief in Baghdad that its hostage strategy will prevail and will discourage military action by the West until climatic conditions become unsuitable next year.

The curfew was lifted yesterday for the first time since the invasion of Kuwait on August 2, according to the Iraqi news agency. The decision was taken, it said, "to confirm the return of normal life to the government".

Baghdad is convinced that the change of leadership in Britain will be fatal to President Bush's military option in the Gulf. "Mrs Thatcher's resignation is a terrible setback for Mr Bush," a senior Iraqi official said yesterday. "Without her support, he will find it very difficult to launch an aggression against Iraq."

US force runs low on spares

Washington — Pentagon planners are seriously concerned about the shortage of spare parts for American Gulf forces, particularly aircraft (Peter Stothard writes).

According to a briefing paper for Richard Cheney, the defence secretary, the US air force is on the way to becoming a "hollow force" because of the cannibalisation of spare parts to keep Operation Desert Shield airborne.

According to one analysis, 24 hours of maintenance is needed to keep an Apache helicopter active for one hour — and even then it is doubtful if its night-firing devices will work in air full of fine sand.

Aquino refusal

Manila — President Aquino turned down a request by Yehia Fahd al-Samir, a special envoy of Sheikh Jaber Ahmed al-Sabah, the emir of Kuwait, to send troops to the Gulf, a senior Philippine official said. But, although Mrs Aquino refused military aid, she promised to send a medical team to the Gulf. (Renter)

Swedish mission

Stockholm — A former Swedish prime minister, Thorbjörn Fälldin, said he would fly to Baghdad to try to win the release of Swedish hostages. Mr Fälldin, who headed non-socialist administrations between 1976 and 1982, met Sen Andersson, the foreign minister, before making his announcement.

Liberty for 180

Baghdad — About 180 Germans held by Iraq since the invasion of Kuwait will leave for home on Sunday or Monday, according to diplomatic sources here. Most of the Germans held as human shields on strategic sites had been brought to Baghdad.

Israel intervenes in Christian dispute

FROM ASSOCIATED PRESS IN JERUSALEM

ISRAEL said yesterday it would repair the leaky roof over Christ's reputed birthplace because feuding Christian groups cannot agree who is responsible for the upkeep.

Repairs at the Church of the Nativity in the occupied West Bank town of Bethlehem will begin in a few days and should be completed by Christmas, Shmuel Hamburger, a military government official, said.

The roof is in such bad shape that the last time we had rain, two weeks ago, it was pouring inside the church," Mr Hamburger added. There were gaping holes in the wood-and-tar roof. Last Christmas buckets for rainwater were set out inside the basilica.

The dispute stems from rivalry between Christian groups over custody of the holy sites. Rights of worship and maintenance are spelled out in detail in the so-called Status Quo, a set of rules dating back to the 1850s.

However, the roof of the Church of the Nativity is not mentioned in the Status Quo. In the past, the ruling authorities — from the Ottomans to

"She was tough and determined and gave Mr Bush the strength he needed," the Iraqi source said. "No one can replace her in the same way."

There is a strong sense that the close alliance with America, and the upholding of the special relationship which Mrs Thatcher fostered with Washington, will subside because the candidates for the Conservative leadership are seen as supporting closer co-operation with Europe.

"We know that the new prime minister will be entirely occupied with domestic issues like the poll tax and the country's economic problems, not to mention Europe," said the Iraqi, who like many high-ranking members of the government has lived and worked in London. "He will not have any time to worry about the Gulf."

Iraqi officials and members of the public in general also applauded Mrs Thatcher's fall, many of them persuaded that her convictions represented much of the driving force behind the threat of war.

British officials, while emphasising that policy towards Iraq was unlikely to alter under a new leader, predicted that the prospects for the hostages in Iraq would probably improve because Baghdad was likely to attempt to woo the new government.

Britons trapped in Baghdad gave a collective sigh of relief at the resignation and held out hopes that the next prime minister will be less belligerent when it comes to Britain's policy in the Gulf.

Several dozen expatriates who have sought sanctuary in the British embassy compound said in a joint statement: "The consensus of opinion is that, even though we all come from different political persuasions and some of us are sad to see her go after such a long and largely successful period of time, we feel that this will greatly enhance our position for early release."

"Mrs Thatcher has probably been the most hawkish of all Western politicians and the policies of Iraq towards us have been directly linked to her comments and attitude. Now that she has gone we can all feel a lot easier."

One British hostage, Julian McCullough, aged 42, added that her attitude made her appear in Iraq as the main aggressor, and that whenever she opened her mouth the Iraqis "tightened the screws".

● **Kuwait round-up:** Iraqi forces have rounded up five more British men who had been hiding in Kuwait, the Foreign Office announced yesterday (Michael Knappe writes). The five were taken to the Meridien Hotel in Kuwait, while five other Britons detained early on Wednesday and held at the Regency Palace Hotel in the city were transferred to the Mansour Melia Hotel in Baghdad.

Three British men gained their freedom in a predominantly Swiss group of more than 30 who arrived in Zurich on Thursday, while 22 others, freed as a result of the efforts of Jean Marie Le Pen, the right-wing French politician, arrived home yesterday.

One of them, John Withers of High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, said he believed the general view of the hostages was: "If they are going to hit him, the sooner the better."



Fire power: down in a desert bunker President Bush squints through the sights of a 50-calibre machinegun while bolstering the morale of US troops stationed in Saudi Arabia. Before flying on to Geneva for his controversial meeting with President Assad of Syria, the president flew from the desert to a red-carpet welcome in Cairo.

During talks with President Mubarak, he repeated the United States and Egypt's "common commitment of working closely together to ensure we succeed". The US and Egyptian relationship was "extremely close", he said, "and is a true force for

peace in the region". President Mubarak in turn said that "the Iraqi invasion must be reversed and Kuwait must be liberated. No tactics will divert us from our objectives, no active defiance will weaken our resolve or shake our determination. To both of us it is a matter of principle and moral commitment" (Sarah Gauthier writes).

Mr Bush said he felt confident of getting the United Nations Security Council's approval to use force against President Saddam Hussein, should Iraq refuse to withdraw — a main purpose for his trip. "We are tired of the status quo and so is the rest of the world," he said. Although he preferred

a peaceful solution through the economic sanctions imposed against Iraq, Mr Bush said the military presence in the Gulf must be a "credible alternative". Either way he said he had the authority to "do what we have to do".

During their meeting the two leaders discussed what security measures could be implemented, once Iraq had withdrawn, to protect the region against similar aggression and the potential use of weapons of mass destruction. Mr Mubarak mentioned his hope that at some point the Palestinian-Israeli situation would be addressed. Although Mr Bush expressed his wish to solve this long-

standing problem, he underlined that the Gulf confrontation and the conflict between Israel and the Palestinians were not connected.

Egypt has remained the United States' staunchest Arab ally in the Gulf. President Mubarak has led the Arab world in its condemnation of President Saddam's invasion of Kuwait. He was the first Arab leader, along with King Hassan of Morocco, to send troops in defence of Saudi Arabia; there are 20,000 men there now and approximately 15,000 more are expected.

UN meeting, page 1

Saddam's Maginot line 'can be broken'

By MICHAEL EVANS
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

ALLIED commanders are confident they can breach the huge "Maginot line" of sand barriers, anti-tank ditches and minefields the Iraqis have built across southern Kuwait, after a study of the defences, senior British military sources said yesterday.

British engineers built a small-scale version of the "obstacle belt" at a secret location in this country and worked out how to overcome the defences. The Americans did the same. "We know the exact depth of the minefields," one source said.

The assessment played a part in the decision by the US and Britain to send more troops to Saudi Arabia. It was realised that more infantry would be needed to support the armour once the Iraqi defences had been breached.

One military source said: "With the right balance of infantry and armour, you can attack on a broad front. The more infantry you have to counter superior force levels, the fewer the casualties."

The increase in allied forces has meant a revision of casualty estimates to 10,000 deaths and 20,000 injured.



THE ART OF UNDERSTANDING THE ENVIRONMENT.

With so many trees lost in Britain every year, something needs to be done.

And in 1989, something was.

The British Trust for Conservation Volunteers, with the support of Esso and the Countryside

Commission, launched the 'Million Tree Campaign'. It caught the imagination of nearly 46,000 people.

Many dug deeply into their pockets to buy new trees.

Many, including children, also dug deeply into the earth, to plant new trees.

As a direct result of all this effort, 770,545 trees have been added to the landscape.

And National Tree Week puts us well on our way to reaching the magic million.

But we won't stop here. For trees will still be lost in large numbers each year.

And unless we build on our achievements, our efforts could all be in vain.

If you'd like to support this campaign and receive a free Action Pack please write to: Million

Tree Campaign, BTCV (Dept. T), Freeport, Oxon OX10 0BR. A SPECIAL KIND OF ANIMAL.



Najibullah vows to make any sacrifice for an Afghan peace



Najibullah: "Contrary to some claims, I have a big heart"

PRESIDENT Najibullah of Afghanistan, who is in Geneva to woo the opponents of his besieged government in Kabul, said yesterday that he would agree to the setting up of a neutral transitional authority with wide executive powers to supervise free elections in the country to end eleven years of internal war.

In an interview, he said that there was no personal sacrifice he would not contemplate if it had a good chance of resolving the conflict peacefully. "Contrary to some people's claims, I have a big heart. One opponent has a duty to try to discover for themselves," he said.

His unexpected visit to Europe comes in the wake of talks in Moscow last week between James Baker, the US Secretary of State, and Eduard Shevardnadze, his

Soviet counterpart, who are said to desire a negotiated end to the Afghan war. But Dr Najibullah was keen to play down the suggestion of a link between the two events.

"The policies of the Afghan government have, by necessity, to reflect the new age of co-operation between the major powers," he said. "But our present talks with prominent Afghans are the culmination of many years' efforts. Water does not immediately evaporate when you pour it over fire."

The Afghan president refused to disclose the identities of his negotiating partners, saying it was at their request. But he was pleased with the trend of the talks.

He was reluctant to describe the proposed transitional authority as a government. "Its name is not important. I would prefer to call it

The Afghan president, who is in Geneva to persuade his Mujahidin foes to join him in a transitional government before holding free elections, talks to Hazhir Teimourian

a transitional organ of power that would have direct control over all our armed forces as well as those of our opponents. We are willing to give over to it the control of key ministries, such as the defence and interior ministries. What I am proposing now is that all of us Afghans sit together round a table to determine the extent of that transitional organ's powers. You can call it what you like."

Dr Najibullah, it appeared, does not seriously believe that the more militant fundamentalists among the Pakistan-based Mujahidin

guerrillas, who have been engaged in clashes with their moderate allies, might agree to participate in his proposed transitional government, but thought the time might be ripe for the moderate parties in the guerrilla alliance to declare a formal break with the militants.

This interpretation was supported by Ahmad Gailani, leader of the National Islamic Front of Afghanistan, who is one of the partners Dr Najibullah is wooing. Mr Gailani, who is in London, said that Dr Najibullah hoped that the first step towards a reconcili-

ation would be taken by Zahir Shah, the former king, who has lived in exile in Rome since his overthrow in a coup in 1973. "Najib hopes that the king might place himself at the head of a transitional government in Kabul and be joined by some of us among the Mujahidin."

Mr Gailani denied recent reports that he had had a meeting with Dr Najibullah during the president's current European visit. Mr Gailani said he, too, preferred a peaceful end to the conflict. Asked whether he could give a guarantee that a transitional government in Kabul would not be overrun by the extremists among the Mujahidin, Mr Gailani said that he could not do so. He believed, however, that the danger of the extremists had been exaggerated. "You would find that

their representatives in any transitional or permanent government would be small, and they would not be allowed to remain as independent militias. I can give the guarantee that there will be no revenge killings. Only criminals will be punished, whether from the ranks of the government or from among the Mujahidin."

In this respect, he and Dr Najibullah appeared to be in agreement. "The extremists would quickly isolate themselves from our people," said the Afghan president. "All we are asking is that their arms supplies from such countries as Pakistan be cut off." In return for aid from Pakistan, American and Saudi Arabian arms supplies to the Mujahidin, Dr Najibullah would agree to a halt in the supply of Soviet weapons to his troops.

Opinion swings Walesa's way as Poland goes to the polls

FROM ROGER BOYES IN WARSAW

LECH Walesa, the Solidarity leader, and Tadeusz Mazowiecki, Poland's prime minister, emerged yesterday as clear favourites in tomorrow's presidential election. Support for the other strong candidate, Stanislaw Tyminski, the Polish-Canadian businessman, seemed to be dwindling.

The last opinion poll before the election gives Mr Walesa 38 per cent of the vote, Mr Mazowiecki 23 per cent and Mr Tyminski 17 per cent. Wlodzimierz Cimoszewicz, the former communist candidate, lags behind with just 6 per cent. Roman Bartoszewicz, the Peasant party's leader, has 5 per cent, and Leszek Moczulski, head of the ultra-nationalist Confederation for an Independent Poland, 2 per cent. The support for Mr Tyminski, is expected to decline even more, mainly to the benefit of Mr Walesa. However, there are unknown factors. At least 9 per cent of respondents in various polls declared themselves undecided, and a substantial number of Poles abroad are voting.

All but the most optimistic arithmetic suggests that Mr Walesa will fall short of the 50 per cent he needs to win in the first round. The second round, a run-off

between the two leading candidates, will be held a fortnight later. Campaigning was forbidden from noon yesterday, but politicians continued to give off-the-record briefings for favoured journalists, thus feeding the rumour mill. Public demonstrations and conferences are also barred until the polls close at 8pm tomorrow.

The election has been correctly described as the first Western-style contest in the post-communist era, a battle of personalities and style rather than the wholesale rejection of totalitarian rule. But there is a crucial difference. In more established democracies, voters choose a leader with clearly defined responsibilities and constitutionally limited powers.

In Poland, the powers of the presidency were tailored for President Jaruzelski at a time when it seemed important to reassure Moscow of Warsaw's ultimate loyalty to the Soviet alliance.

Those times have passed, but the powers remain. The president can declare martial law or a state of emergency. He nominates the prime minister and formally proposes his recall. He appoints the commander-in-chief and is ex officio supreme commander of the armed forces. He can issue decrees, although whether Mr Walesa could rule in this way, as he has threatened, is unclear. He also guides foreign policy.

These powers derive from amendments to the 1952 constitution, but there are constraints too. For example, parliament can try to remove him if he proves to be mentally unstable. But the balance between the president and parliament can be easily swung in the president's favour. General Jaruzelski, conscious of his very tentative position, rarely made use of the powers and vetoed only one piece of legislation.

The fear of Polish parliamentarians is that Mr Walesa would sap the country's fledgling parliamentary democracy by making frequent use of these powers. The Polish parliament is already something of a lame duck since new elections have been set for next spring. An assertive president could well fill the vacuum.

Mr Walesa, in his election programme, promises that communists will be weeded out of the state administration and that members of past communist governments could face trial. This is disquieting especially for those who work in the foreign ministry or the armed forces, which fall under the presidential domain.

Constitutional experts have been working on a new constitution shaping an entirely different kind of presidency which should be ready by next May 3. Poles voting on Sunday thus have little idea of the powers that their newly elected president will enjoy after that date. The voting is, thus, in many ways, a leap in the dark.

Poles in exile, page 18



Victory salute: two boys show their allegiance to Lech Walesa as they collect a poster from his campaign headquarters in Warsaw on the eve of Poland's presidential election. Support for the Solidarity leader is increasing according to opinion polls

Bishops denounce sins of Madrid

FROM HARRY DEBELIUS IN MADRID

CHURCH-state relations in Spain appeared yesterday to be at their lowest ebb since the Socialists came to power nearly nine years ago, after bishops denounced widespread "moral degradation" and corruption and put much of the blame on the government.

In a document which took nearly two years to prepare, the Roman Catholic Episcopal Council stepped into the political arena, condemning political turncoats, influence-peddling, "grave and scandalous" corruption, misuse of public funds, discrimination on ideological grounds, nepotism, the re-zoning of lands "to carry out abusive and fraudulent deals", speculation in the housing market, and a long list of other sins.

It was the strongest call to order issued by the hierarchy in nearly a decade and a half of democracy, and it came after a warning from the papal altar in the week by Cardinal Angel Sola, the council president. A senior administration official called it a direct attack on the government.

The bishops accused authorities of "manipulating the truth by means of official ideological propaganda and information of an anti-religious nature, silencing or ridiculing Catholic viewpoints".

Referring to the current "sexual disorder", presumably fomented by such actions as the government's big advertising campaign to promote the use of contraceptives, the churchmen lamented disturbing signs of "the frivolous trivialisation of human sexuality", such as marital infidelity and the

failure of public figures to set an example. One such figure who came to mind immediately among readers of the document was Alfonso Guerra, the deputy prime minister, who is frequently accompanied at public functions by an unmarried woman friend rather than by his wife. The hierarchy scorned "the extension of extra-marital relations, the generalisation of pre-marital relations and the demand for the legitimisation of homosexual relations".

Claiming that "Spain has become an immense casino", the bishops condemned the materialist culture, as evidenced by the "disproportionate exaltation of money" and of "men and women whose only claim to fame seems to be their meteoric success in the realm of wealth and luxury".



Guerra: accompanied by an unmarried woman

EC strengthens links with US and Canada

FROM MICHAEL BINYON IN BRUSSELS

SETTING aside recent arguments over trade, the European Community yesterday released the text of two wide-ranging declarations putting their relations with the United States and Canada for the first time on a quasi-regular footing. The documents provide for regular summit meetings and top-level ministerial consultations.

Giulio Andreotti, the Italian prime minister and current president of the European Council, and Brian Mulroney, the Canadian prime minister, signed the EC-Canada declaration in Rome yesterday. The EC-United States statement has not yet been formally signed by either side.

The signing ceremony was to have been in Washington two weeks ago during the talks between President Bush and Signor Andreotti and Jacques Delors, president of the European Commission. But arguments over the wording of their security relations and American insistence on inserting a clause on the current world trade talks held up signature.

The declaration sets out a framework for political, economic, scientific and cultural co-operation. It outlines common goals, such as the support of democracy and human rights, the promotion of market principles, support for Eastern Europe and the rejection of protectionism.

The document also promises regular dialogue on all areas of trade, but makes no reference to the current negotiations under the General Agreement on Tariffs and

Trade. In addition, it binds both sides to co-operate in fighting terrorism, drug smuggling and international crime, protecting the environment and preventing the proliferation of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons and missile technology.

The declarations come in response to last year's call by James Baker, the American Secretary of State, for closer institutional co-operation between the United States and the community. Mr Baker and M Delors both wanted EC-US relations put on a treaty footing, with the establishment of twice-yearly summits and joint meetings between the European Commission and delegations of American cabinet members. This has now been watered down to a simple declaration of principles instead of a full treaty for resolving disputes.

The declaration with Canada has almost identical wording and also provides for regular consultations. Both, however, come at a time of deep disagreement with the community over the Gatt trade talks, and especially the EC's position on agriculture.

The final round of ministerial talks among the 107 participating nations is to begin here on Monday week. But six Latin American countries have threatened to walk out of the talks and Arthur Dunkel, the secretary-general of Gatt, has given a warning that the whole negotiating round may now end in deadlock.

Gatt unresolved, page 25

Gorbachev given reform deadline

FROM REUTERS IN MOSCOW

THE Soviet parliament yesterday gave President Gorbachev two weeks to devise a more effective system of government and ensure reliable supplies of food during the winter - and gave him the powers to do it.

After a lengthy and largely listless debate, deputies approved a series of amendments giving final approval to a resolution that will in effect increase his already considerable executive powers. The parliament, the Supreme Soviet, also called for special measures to ensure proper distribution of food aid from abroad.

The KGB was charged with "fighting economic sabotage" to ensure aid was put to its intended use. Mr Gorbachev has frequently blamed speculators for contributing to the endemic shortages of food and other staples.

The changes were first outlined by Mr Gorbachev last week to halt the country's slide towards economic and political chaos. The changes, still vague, involve subordinating government activity directly to the president, in effect doing away with the post of prime minister. Mr Gorbachev's current prime minister, Nikolai Ryzhkov, has been widely accused of hindering plans to apply market principles to the crumbling economy.

PARIS NOTEBOOK by Philip Jacobson

Who wears the trousers still a puzzle

It is sometimes said that you can tell winter has come in Paris when the transvestite prostitutes in the Bois de Boulogne don fur coats over their exotic underwear. But, as early-morning joggers can confirm, the first sharp frosts have not noticeably reduced demand for their services of fresco.

The occasional police raids, usually in response to official pressure to clean up the Bois, certainly have no effect on the regular, known collectively as "the boys from Brazil" because that is where most have their operations done.

One such swoop is said to have produced a memorable bulletin announcing the arrest of half a dozen female prostitutes, half a dozen males and several of "indeterminate status".

Quite by chance, a cutting from a Parisian newspaper of November 1890 came to light the other day which reported a campaign by the Society for the Emancipation of Women to "introduce a radical change in feminine dress". It seems French women were formally prohibited from wearing male clothes "ex-

cept in cases where a medical certificate is presented stating that such travesty is necessary".

Of the 10 females in the country who had secured such authorisation, *Le Temps* observed, one was an explorer, another an artist, a third the boss of a printing firm.

More intriguingly, there was also a "male potato huckster" who was allowed to go about in female costume because of an infirmity, not further described, "which renders it impossible for him to dress as a man".

Regular travellers on the Line B rail link between central Paris and Charles de Gaulle airport have become accustomed to the presence of large numbers of Indians, Pakistanis and Sri Lankans routing away in their own languages.

A great many look permanently exhausted, the result, one assumes, of working fearful hours at the sort of backbreaking jobs only recent immigrants, legal or otherwise, are desperate enough to take on.

If French government figures can be trusted where this acutely

sensitive subject is concerned, overall immigration increased by about 20 per cent last year. A sizeable chunk of that was accounted for by seasonal workers, but there was also a remarkable 80 per cent leap in foreigners seeking asylum.

More than 61,000 applications were submitted and current figures suggest that the numbers are still growing. Under this strain, France's long and honourable tradition of sheltering victims of political oppression is beginning to crack.

According to the authorities, four of every five requests for asylum are being turned down, whereas only two years ago the comparative figure was about one in three.

What happens to unsuccessful applicants is another matter: many simply disappear back into their own communities here.

With citizens of India and Pakistan now near the top of the French league table of asylum-seekers (behind only Senegal and Turkey), the cheerful babble of Urdu, Hindi and Tamil on Line B is evidently here to stay.

China aims to tighten its grip on Hong Kong

Peking - In a move apparently designed to increase central control over Hong Kong, China has replaced its top official responsible for the British colony.

A spokesman for the Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office said yesterday that Lu Ping, the deputy director since 1987, would take over the directorship from Ji Pengfei, who had headed the office for the past eight years.

Mr Ji, a former foreign minister with close ties to China's top leaders, exercised a degree of independence in formulating policy for Hong Kong. The Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office is under the state council, China's cabinet, and is the highest government organ dealing with the two territories, which are return to Chinese rule by the end of the century.

Since the June 1989 suppression of the pro-democracy movement in Peking that was popularly supported in Hong Kong, China has sought to tighten control over the colony.

The spokesman said Mr Ji and another deputy, Li Hou, submitted resignations in April, citing old age. Mr Ji is 81 years old. Mr Li, however, is 67 - still considered young in the Chinese leadership.

MPs congratulate Indian diplomat

A motion congratulating Sri Kuldip Nayar, the outgoing High Commissioner of India and a former *Times* correspondent in Delhi, has been passed in the House of Commons.

The high commissioner, who hosted a farewell dinner two days ago, was particularly congratulated for his initiatives in reducing visa fees for people visiting India from Britain and for forging bonds of friendship with Indian communities in Britain.

Mr Nayar, who had been jailed during the Indira Gandhi emergency, was appointed high commissioner by the previous Indian government earlier this year. His successor has yet to be named.

Queen visits RAF

Wexham, Germany - The Queen made a private visit to staff and their families at the RAF base of Laarbruch, and lunched in the mess. In six previous visits to Germany, the Queen had not visited the RAF. Hours before the BA-146 of the Queen's Flight taxied to a standstill, three Tornados from XV Squadron flew off to join the British forces in the Gulf. Three more leave today and by Christmas 200 personnel from Laarbruch will be in Saudi Arabia.

Zambian reform

Lesaka - Zambia's MPs will debate a constitutional reform bill next week to legislate opposition parties, official newspapers quoted Malimba Masheke, the prime minister, as saying. In September, President Kamunda bowed to pressure for an end to one-party rule and promised multi-party elections next year. (*Reuter*)

Cash for victims

Prague - Czechoslovakia has agreed payment to victims of Stalinist purges in the decades after Communist rule began in 1948. Because the government is strapped for cash, most of the victims' compensation will come as share certificates in privatised state companies. Political prisoners from the 1950s will be paid an immediate sum of 10,000 crowns (£167); 800,000 Czechoslovaks are eligible for compensation.

Ottawa brawl

Ottawa - The Canadian Senate was adjourned in turmoil after shoving and verbal abuse between Conservative and opposition Liberal members. In an argument over the government's proposed goods-and-services tax, enraged Liberals scolded the Speaker, Guy Charbonneau, after he had cut off an independent senator who wanted to introduce an amendment. One Liberal denounced Mr Charbonneau as "a bloody disgrace".

FREE Pruning Guide

Cut high cost of Tree Surgery

PROFESSIONAL PRUNER & SAW OUTFIT GIVES UP TO 15% REACH

Robust top quality surgical steel PRUNER clearly cuts through 1" branches using superior bypass action. Perfectly angled 11" SAW cuts smoothly through thick, tough branches, removing dangerous live or dead wood as easily as a hot knife through butter. Cuts safely, securely, one lightweight aluminium poles - three sturdy aluminium poles (4ft, 6ft or 12ft). Provides maximum 18FT REACH (see own height) from ground safely. Effortless pulley lever action. Poles to fit for compact storage. Complete outfit £229.95+£3.95 delivery. PLUS FREE ILLUSTRATED HINTS ON SUCCESSFUL PRUNING.

FRUIT PICKER ATTACHMENT. Screws to pole. 3 foot padded "ladder" "ladder" only and securely pick even highest fruit, £3 extra.

Also available... SAW WITH POLES (no pulley) £129.95+£2.95 delivery. Money refunded without question if not satisfied.

ACCESS on 081 200 2671 VISA on 081 200 2671 anytime 1421 days delivery.

BUYERS CHOICE (TP47)
Hyde House, The Hyde, LONDON NW9 6LH. (Division of Abdon Sales Ltd)

peace

China aims to tighten its grip on Hong Kong

MPs congratulate

visits

reform

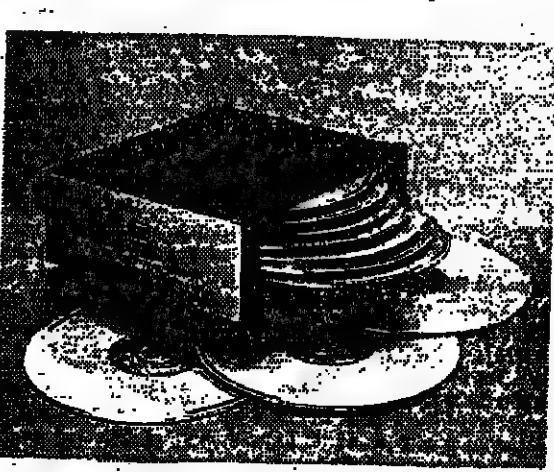


"When making a long journey by road, the one thing I always like to have with me is a car."

(Rory McGrath, owner of the fiendishly sophisticated Sony in-car 'Disc Jockey' 719.)

"I'm not very technically minded but one thing I do know is that if you're bombing up the M1, having a car does save wear and tear on the seat of your trousers. I'm not very good at makes of cars, but I know that mine is one of the 'blue ones'.
I'm one of those people who just use a car for getting from A to B; which is a bit of a shame, actually, because most of my friends live at D, and I work in South Q. However, I do appreciate a bit of in-car entertainment. When I'm driving I love

listening to Suzanne Vega, but it's becoming increasingly difficult for me to persuade her to come with me, especially if it's down to the Arsenal on a Saturday afternoon. So recently I've had fitted an amazing new entertainment system - the Sony 'Disc Jockey'.
This brilliant piece of equipment comprises a stereo radio cassette and a CD player, which is safely and discreetly tucked away in the boot. The radio gives you 24 preset stations with, of course, FM, MW



and LW (for people who don't know what those letters stand for, it means you can listen to Freddie Mercury, Marti Webb and Larry Williams... whose song 'Shoo doo tu fu ooh' got to number 38 in November 1977!).
The CD player takes 10 discs at a time, giving you up to 12 hours of continuous music, which is brilliant if you're on a 12 hour journey, like the one from Junction 15 on the M25 to Junction 16 on the M25. But, best of all, it has a 'shuffle-play' feature which randomly plays tracks from all the discs.

The only thing I'm not certain about is why it's called the DISC-JOCKEY... I suppose if you press the right buttons it can get past the door at 'Stringfellows', appear on 'Blankety Blank' and open supermarkets. I could be wrong, I'm not technically minded you see. I'll ask Suzanne Vega when she's next in the car..."

SONY.
WHY COMPROMISE?



1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

THE SWORD IN THE STONE

"Whoso pulleth out this sword of this stone and anvil is rightwise King born of all England." In the manner of Arthurian legend, the three contenders for the Tory leadership must prove themselves worthy of the Thatcherite succession. The Tory party in the country, most of it enraged at the manner of Mrs Thatcher's ejection, now demands a leader to carry on the spirit she demonstrated so brilliantly in Thursday's censure debate. The tests are stiff. They differ for each candidate, and none has yet shown he can easily pass.

Michael Heseltine is still favourite. The polls indicate that he would be the most likely to win an early general election and his backers laud his strong but dignified campaigning style. He has maiden-in-distress appeal. But he is handicapped by being counted, with Nigel Lawson and Sir Geoffrey Howe, among the regicides, and regicides rarely take the crown. Although the true culprits were the cabinet faint-hearts, Mr Heseltine can never present himself as the candidate of unity. Almost to a man, the cabinet colleagues would poison his wine. He must thus pass the party unity test.

He must pass two more tests. He must convince his colleagues of his temperamental stability under pressure. He must also establish his credentials as able to build on the foundation of Thatcherism, rather than offer an alternative, harking back to the 1970s. He has made mistakes in his campaign. His poll tax reform implies that the tax can be related more closely to ability to pay and that some of education could be switched to central government without raising income tax.

Mr Heseltine's desire for a super-ministry of trade and industry needs more definition, as do his monetary and trade policies. His case for government intervention was unfairly dismissed as crypto-socialist by Mrs Thatcher last week. But it struck a dull chord in those for whom such ideas are neo-Heathite. Mr Heseltine's enthusiasm for European co-operation is regarded by his critics as craven submission to every lunacy out of Brussels. He needs to rebut these charges. Hard tests indeed.

Candidate number two, Douglas Hurd, has to his credit solid achievement in the Home Office and Foreign Office, where he was an effective leader and communicator and a skilled operator of the Whitehall machine. But his tests are also tough. He is the oldest candidate, at 60, and must convey energy and innovative zeal to supplement his obvious maturity of judgment. Although only three years his senior, he lacks the vigour of Mr Heseltine. Ideologically, he is detached from the Thatcher legacy, perhaps an asset one day but a liability in her afterglow. Mr Hurd seems

to hark back, less to the days of Edward Heath (whose private secretary he was) than to Butler or Macmillan. "We have to be more persuasive and less assertive," he declared yesterday. Courtesy, Mr Hurd's watchword, behoves courtiers better than kings.

Foreign affairs is Mr Hurd's strong suit. But here the test is to show that he is not the creature of the Foreign Office, which dragged him mercilessly through a recent Israeli fiasco, that he is "his own man" as Mrs Thatcher was most emphatically her own woman. If he is not his own man in foreign affairs, what is he likely to be when he must play his weakest suit, taking on tax reform or interest rate policy against the Treasury or monetary union against the Euro-federalists? These are tough challenges.

Candidate number three, and strengthening by the day, is John Major. He is blessed with anonymity, a kindly manner and almost no record to which exception might be taken. But he has the hardest test of all: to find a political personality of any sort. He was at the Treasury when monetary targets were abandoned in the latter half of the 1980s and when economic sovereignty was sacrificed at the altar of inflation. Mr Major was of the team which produced the Lawson boom. He has regretted that, but he must tell the nation what he means by regret. What did he learn?

He must do more. Mr Major is the youngest and least experienced of the candidates. He has not known the heat of crisis. Mr Major was declared "all at sea" in his brief time at the Foreign Office, before scuttling back to the safe embrace of his Treasury nannies. A competent Chancellor is one thing. A prime minister must be wholly different. Could he stand the strain? That is the question even those close to him still ask.

Mr Major's great test is thus to show he can assert himself over, not just among, his colleagues — assert himself not merely as a chief secretary asserts himself, but as leader of a stunned nation. He has to show he can do this where the more experienced Mr Heseltine and Mr Hurd could not. He has made a virtue of being politically unspecific. He appears to have no political creed. He has gained the endorsement of the party right, yet appears liberal on social policy, law and order and even public spending. Who is he? And if he is worthy of Downing Street, why does he want it now? This is surely the hardest test of all.

So the knights go out. None has so far shown he can take up the challenge of Mrs Thatcher's uncompleted revolution. The sword will glow in the granite for four, perhaps six, days only. Who shall show himself worthy of Excalibur?

THE POLL TAX INCUBUS

She chained it to their ankles and made them drag it round the hustings. She swore she would never rid them of it. She cared not what it did to her opinion poll ratings. Now it has come to haunt the three candidates for the Tory leadership. The poll tax was the most foolish measure Margaret Thatcher introduced. Costly to collect, easy to evade and unfair in its incidence, virtually nobody with experience of local government money saw it as other than the foible of an over-confident centralist.

Now that Mrs Thatcher has gone, the moment is propitious for demolition. Not surprisingly, each of the candidates has swiftly promised a review, with Michael Heseltine taking the lead as a long-standing critic of the tax. He has squandered that lead by failing to grasp the essence of what the government must now do. Mr Heseltine, like Messrs Hurd and Major, merely promised yet another review of the tax, waffling about "ability to pay".

There have been three substantive reviews of this tax already. The first came at the time of the original bill and concluded that the tax would be so regressive that a complex system of safety nets, rebates and transitional reliefs would have to be included. The second came last year, when Conservative pressure had reached such a pitch that the environment secretary, Chris Patten, himself unhappy about the tax, agreed to look yet again at the rebates and reliefs. He also agreed to reduce the size of the tax, by throwing £3 billion at local authorities. Both these reviews reinforced the widespread opinion of officials and ministers in Whitehall that the tax was bad and increasingly unworkable. A huge logjam of enforcement cases now confronts the overburdened courts.

The third review was conducted by the Labour party earlier this year, goaded into

proposing its "alternative" both to the poll tax and to the rating system. Labour discovered what any philosopher could have told it, that only death and taxes are certain. Just as Mrs Thatcher's vow to "abolish the rates" was politically naive, so any search for a pain-free alternative was a will-o'-the-wisp. The best approach is simply to fix on the cheapest, fairest and most certain tax. There is no problem here, since such a tax exists in every democratic country in the world. It is based on property. In Britain until last April, it was called the rates.

Labour has courageously come to this conclusion. The country now waits to see which candidate for the Tory leadership will have the courage to do the same. Local taxation, an important constitutional mechanism for local democratic accountability, could then be removed from party conflict. The rates could be restored on existing valuations (still used for water rate purposes). Strictly local distortions in values could be met by local revaluation, as before. Regional inequalities could be met, again as before, through the government block grant system.

Business rates, where there was a case for revaluation, should revert to local assessment. This might be tough for businesses in left-wing areas — but that is what accountability means. Rate payment could also be made compulsory for every household, including those paying council or private rents, to achieve the individual accountability theoretically sought under poll tax but eroded in practice through a welter of reliefs. Any further reform could be left to a cross-party committee of enquiry.

What would be impressive would be for all three candidates to promise to lance the boil. The whole ghastly chapter could then end.

AND ALL THAT

This is the diamond jubilee of 1066 and *All That*. How better to celebrate that Sellar and Yeatman masterpiece than to bring it bang up to date...

In 1979 a housewife named Mrs Thatcher found herself in Downing Street and thus began the Age of Thatcherism. She followed an utterly petty officer called Callaghan, unmemorable except for his winters of discontent. Mrs Thatcher was memorable for being a Woman. She disliked socialists, foreigners, the Bishop of Durham, other women and Ted Heath, a failed band leader.

Mrs Thatcher wanted to privatise everything including her ministers and her electricity (thus earning her the Cossack title of *Iron Lady*). Her biggest ally was a South American general called "Gouty" Airy who invaded the Falkland Islands. The Navy sent a tank force commanded by Mrs Thatcher's son, Prince Andrew, to find out where they were. This led to a hit song, "Don't frighten me Argentina", the downfall of Airy and Mrs Thatcher's recognition as a Great War Leader.

Mrs Thatcher now became famous for her enemies. One of them, Arthur Kohl, not to be confused with another, Helmut Kohl, was wildly in favour of a three-day week, sometimes called a no-day week, for miners. Mrs Thatcher completely defeated him at the Battle of Orgreave by sending a little old man called Macgregor to speak to them in a completely foreign language. When he offered

them a Brass Band they immediately returned to work. When they got there, Mr Macgregor had closed all the mines. This was accepted as a Good Compromise and showed that Mrs Thatcher was a Great Peacetime Leader.

Mrs Thatcher's greatest problem was Europe. Whenever she went to Europe to fight Helmut Kohl, she lost another minister in the Channel, including Michael Brannan, the Lion of Britain, Sir Geoffrey Howe and Major Lawson. They all disappeared utterly, most of them on Agatha Christie's birthday. This was considered careless and suspicious.

She now called herself "we" and even Queen. When her courtiers told her she was in danger of becoming a totally Bad Thing, she said she would prove her popularity by deliberately doing The Most Horrible Thing in British History. This was the poll tax. Everybody had to pay a fine to dreaded Militants whenever questioned by a pollster, known as a Mori. This indeed proved fantastically unpopular.

It was also a Bad Move. Opposition now formed round Brannan and his "men in grey suits" and staged an election. Margaret dressed up in a ruff, like Elizabeth the First, to show she really ruled the country. She announced "I fight, I fight to win" — a famous British phrase of surrender — and privatised herself in a puff of smoke. Thus her great and glorious reign came to an end.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Pluses and minuses for Thatcher

From Mr C. S. P. Harwood

Sir, Those who cry "treachery" and accuse the Conservative MPs of disloyalty adopt the same position as those who fought to keep the steel mills and mining villages unchanged despite the change in economic conditions. To retain the status quo, despite a perceived need for change, for emotional reasons leads to long-term suffering and further decline. It is sad to see a prime minister, who has achieved so much for the country, leave in such a manner. It was also sad to see mining communities break up and steel workers made redundant after years of loyal service. Both, however, had to happen and appeals to one's heart will hurt but should not prevent the right decision being made.

Yours sincerely,
C. S. P. HARWOOD,
5 Orchard Court,
Victoria Rise, SW4.

From Mr Lance Mitchell

Sir, Two moments from the 1990 Conservative party conference will live forever in my memory.

One, of course, is the leader's brilliantly inspired "dead parrot" joke. The other is the Chairman's call, "Hands up! Hands up! ... all those who think the prime minister is doing a good job! ... There BBC! There's your answer! Film them!"

It wasn't wonderful to see the Conservative party united behind their leader?

Yours faithfully,
LANCE MITCHELL,
c/o The Heights,
Broadway, Whitwell,
Hertfordshire.

From Miss Jacqui D. Ross

Sir, The prime minister's resignation has, quite rightly, prompted many tributes and it is only fair that her many achievements should be remembered. But we must not overlook her failings, presenting Michael Heseltine, Geoffrey Howe and the like as villains and Margaret Thatcher the victim.

I believe, Sir, that we have been the victims of an over-powerful prime minister for too long. I look forward to the return of cabinet government under Mr Heseltine.

Yours faithfully,
JACQUE ROSS,
2 St John Street,
York.

From Mr Geoffrey Mills

Sir, Sir Jeffrey Sterling (November 17) suggested that the exchange rate is the only option poll which matters when considering our prime minister's performance.

In 1979 the pound was worth over 200 Yen (today 230), DM 4 (today 3.9), Sw Fr 3.6 (today 2.4) and Gld 4.4 (today 3.3). Even in relation to the sickly US dollar it has fallen from 2.3 to 1.9.

From Miss C. M. Newman

Sir, Peter Herbert's analogy (November 17) is misplaced. The young European judges he refers to are the products of a career judiciary operating in inquisitorial systems. The British adversarial system demands of its judges that they have considerable experience in the presentation of cases in court before pretending to an ability to rule on them.

There is no foundation for the argument that in order to serve society the judiciary must reflect it. The interests which Mr Herbert very properly seeks to advance, namely full acceptance in public and professional life of those women and members of ethnic minorities who wish to serve, would undoubtedly be advanced by his proposal, but that is not, or should not be, the point.

Yours faithfully,
CATHERINE NEWMAN,
13 Old Square,
Lincoln's Inn, WCL.

From Mr S. C. Procter

Sir, As a former chief officer in a district authority, I would like to comment on Douglas Broom's report, "Poll tax defaulters may use the vote" (November 8). It illustrates many of the nonsense of this "tax".

First, it is pertinent to recall that those who have to administer the community charge and others who thought intelligently about it, warned, warned and warned again that it would be very expensive to administer, fraught with difficulty in its collection and seen as unfair to many. The Government did not listen.

The community charge, to give

Equally embarrassing comparative declines can be seen since 1979 in our trade balance, training, education, research, rail and roads, law and order, or in any other social or commercial comparisons with the performance of similar countries. All that despite the windfall wealth of North Sea oil, which first came fully on stream in 1979.

What motivates some of our business leaders to keep on telling us that all that is good performance?

Yours faithfully,
GEOFFREY MILLS,
43 Whetstone Close,
Edgaston, Birmingham,
November 20.

From Mr John Allan May

Sir, The Tories can win the next election. If they cut inflation sharply, basically amend the poll tax and in general show that they are as concerned for the lives of the young and the less-well-off as they are for the fortunes of the well-to-do. If they do these things the name of the prime minister doesn't matter. If they don't they will lose anyway.

Yours truly,
JOHN ALLAN MAY,
Amberley, Dances Close,
Ossott, Surrey.

From Mr R. F. Sawle

Sir, It would now appear to be acceptable for a party to be elected to government under one leader, only for that leader to be ousted at the whim of its MPs. This time it has occurred after three years of a government. Who is to say such a patch would not occur immediately after a general election?

Yours faithfully,
R. F. SAWLE,
Wayside, 62 Bradley Road,
Trowbridge, Wiltshire.

From Mr Keith A. Bevan

Sir, In the event of Douglas Hurd becoming prime minister may I suggest that he need only make one cabinet change. That being the appointment of Mrs Thatcher to his former post as foreign secretary, thereby enabling the formidable Mrs Thatcher to continue in the role to which she is best suited, as an ambassador for the country on the world stage.

Yours faithfully,
KEITH BEVAN,
16 Summerfield Court,
Edge Lane,
Chorlton-cum-Hardy,
Manchester 21.

From Mr Colin Lear

Sir, Loyal Conservatives should unite and nominate a candidate for Henley.

Yours faithfully,
COLIN LEAR,
Curtis Farm,
Cheltenham, Gloucestershire.

Kwai bridge victims

Sir, Your report "Kwai bridge victims being found" (November 19) states that this mass grave at Kanchanaburi "is the first from the second world war to be found in South East Asia".

In July 1943 about 40 or 50 miles up the line and up river at Fochan Spring Camp during the cholera outbreak I saw an open mass grave of Asian forced labourers. Kanchanaburi was only near the beginning of the line, and comparatively civilised. The further the line went, through the jungle the rougher the conditions were. There must be many more mass graves to be discovered up there.

These tens of thousands of Asians should also be remembered.

Yours faithfully,
PAUL M. ROBINSON,
32 Whetstone Road,
Ilkerton, Derbyshire,
November 19.

From Mr S. C. Procter

Sir, As a former chief officer in a district authority, I would like to comment on Douglas Broom's report, "Poll tax defaulters may use the vote" (November 8). It illustrates many of the nonsense of this "tax".

First, it is pertinent to recall that those who have to administer the community charge and others who thought intelligently about it, warned, warned and warned again that it would be very expensive to administer, fraught with difficulty in its collection and seen as unfair to many. The Government did not listen.

The community charge, to give

Child protection

From the Director of Family Rights Group

Sir, We are saddened to read (report, November 13) of Rochdale's failure to follow government guidance on child protection procedures, but we are not surprised by the inspectors' findings.

Our agency has just come to the end of a three-year project to promote family participation in child protection work. It has revealed that fewer than 10 per cent of local authority areas in England and Wales have proper procedures to encourage and enable parents to participate in crucial planning and decision-making meetings about their children.

It is small wonder that the exclusion of parents from child protection conferences features as one of the most consistent complaints raised in our national

advice service about care and child protection matters.

Yet another set of government recommendations and guidance might succeed in shifting practice in individual agencies that come under public scrutiny. But they stand little chance of making much impact in the many other areas where inter-agency committees and the NSPCC have chosen to reject earlier guidance on parental involvement.

At the heart of the problem is the view of some professionals that they hold all the answers on child protection, and that parents' knowledge and expertise about their children count for nothing. The balance of power between agencies and families will need to shift dramatically before we see

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (071) 782 5046.

Regionalising orchestras' funds

From the Chairman of the Halle Concerts Society and others

Sir, The Minister for the Arts, David Mellor, has recently secured a notable victory on behalf of the arts in the annual battle with the Treasury (report, November 10).

Regrettably, so far as the regionally-based symphony orchestras are concerned, and in this context London has been "regionalised", much of his success is about to be seriously undermined by a bureaucratic process Mr Mellor has inherited from his predecessor, originally called devolution, now called delegation, and more aptly dubbed relegation.

This process may have advantages for some Arts Council clients but it is the unanimous view of the major symphony orchestras in this country, currently funded by the Arts Council, that delegation could put them at a severe financial disadvantage.

The symphony orchestras in England provide a nationwide service and are active worldwide. Although naturally they have a centre of operation in one city, they all present far more concerts outside their own region than within it. Local authority support from within the area of the arts board to which they are to be delegated, except in the case of Birmingham, is significantly less than that derived from local authorities outside their regions.

The cost of this proposed reorganisation, including redundancy packages at the existing

regional arts associations and at the Arts Council, is reported to be £3.5 million. This will inevitably mean less for arts organisations generally, and one must question the rationale of money being wasted on bureaucracy in this way. At the same time it is envisaged that the Arts Council will still play the role of the policeman to try to protect their delegated clients. This appears to make the whole exercise pointless as well as expensive and any ensuing conflict would be at our expense.

This regionalisation of the funding of our symphony orchestras can achieve nothing good. It will seriously undermine the national and international standing of these orchestras which in turn will make it more difficult than ever for them to secure the levels of sponsorship so necessary to their survival.

We would urge the Minister and the Arts Council to think again before any fundamental damage is caused to some of this country's finest assets.

Yours faithfully,
SEBASTIAN DE FERRANTI,
Chairman, Halle Concerts Society,
GEORGE JONAS, Chairman,
City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra Society,
JOHN LAST, Chairman,
Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Society,
NIGEL BEALE, Chairman,
Western Orchestral Society,
30 Cross Street,
Manchester 2,
November 21.

Religious freedom

From the Archdeacon of Durham

Sir, The Reverend Michael Barber (November 17) asks the Saudi authorities to be as sympathetic towards freedom of religious expression in their country as we are in ours. I would like it to be as simple as that. Alas, it is not.

Mr Barber's parish church is built on consecrated ground, that is, which is reserved in perpetuity for the worship of God as Christians understand him. He would (I imagine) be affronted if Muslim worship were to be offered on the site of the altar.

To the Saudis, the whole of their country is consecrated ground — ground, that is, that is reserved in perpetuity for the worship of God as Muslims conceive him. To allow Christian worship anywhere in that land would be as offensive as to allow Islamic worship in All Saints' in Sunderland.

British law allows a fiction whereby, if the church is redundant or its ground is required for purposes such as roadworks, the "legal effects of consecration" can be removed and the ground treated as if it were unconsecrated. Perhaps we should explore with the Saudis whether a similar fiction could be allowed on Saudi soil, as it is on the soil of many another Islamic state?

But even if this were to be possible, the process of law is (notoriously) slow, and I do not imagine we would reach agreement in time for carol services to be openly held on Saudi soil this Christmas.

Yours sincerely,
MICHAEL PERRY,
7 The College, Durham.

Gulag prisoner

From Mrs Joyce Simson

Sir, In his article, "Keep it up, Mr Gorbachev, but don't forget the Gulag" (November 16), Bernard Levin was concerned that Mr Gorbachev himself would never learn the sad details concerning Adolf Gurtvitz, still incarcerated in a Siberian labour camp.

May I reassure Mr Levin? On November 20 at the Paris summit I personally handed Mr Gorbachev the case history of Mr Gurtvitz. I had already asked Mr Gorbachev to remember the victims of injustice still suffering in his country and he asked me to give specific particulars. He received Adolf Gurtvitz's biography most willingly.

Now I hope that he will act on the information. There is no longer any doubt that President Gorbachev knows the details of Adolf Gurtvitz's situation.

If he is not released, Mr Gorbachev must share the KGB guilt.

Yours sincerely,
JOYCE SIMSON,
Women's Campaign for Soviet Jewry,
Pannell House,
779/781 Finchley Road, NW11,
November 22.

any real progress on joint work to protect children and promote their welfare.

Legislation might succeed where guidance has failed. When the Children Act was passing through Parliament two years ago the Lords tried, but failed, to get inserted into the Act the Cleveland recommendation that parents should attend child protection conferences.

If that amendment had succeeded, we are sure that agencies would now be working out ways of changing practice before the Act is introduced next year. An amendment at this late stage might offer the best chance that children will no longer be failed by agencies who continue to ignore their families.

Yours faithfully,
JO TUNNARD, Director,
Family Rights Group,
The Print House,
18 Ashwin Street, E8.

Sent to try us

From Mrs Helen Tarnay

Sir, In response to Mr Turner (November 20) I can confidently confirm, having lived, rented houses, spent holidays or stayed with relations in most European countries (including several in the former Eastern bloc) and despite having four daughters between the ages of 12 and 21, that there is nothing more exasperating than wiring a 13-amp plug.

Yours faithfully,
HELEN TARNAY,
Gale, Chelwood Gate, Sussex.

From Mrs Margaret Whitaker

Sir, Surely the most exasperating experience must be trying to discover which bulb on the circuit is responsible for dousing the Christmas tree lights five minutes before guests are due to arrive. Yours, in annual anticipation, M. WHITAKER, Avalon, Newtonmore Drive, Mount Pleasant, Shrewsbury, Shropshire.

From Mr Graeme Johnston

Sir, I recently bought a dishwasher for my new home. It came ready fitted with a sealed 13-amp plug. To get from the machine to the electric socket, the cable had to pass through a narrow hole in the frame of the kitchen unit. I had no alternative but to remove the fitted plug, throw it away and wire a new one.

Yours,
GRAEME JOHNSTON,
2 Moreton Drive,
Buckingham.

From Mrs Helen E. Morris

Sir, Peter Turner asks if there is anything more exasperating than wiring a 13-amp plug. Yes there is: a husband who can't. Yours patiently,
HELEN E. MORRIS,
11 Wycheprey Road,
Haywards Heath, Sussex.

From Mr Stan Bryett

Sir, Watching my wife wiring it, chauvinistically yours,
STAN BRYETT,
29 Rushout Avenue,
Kenton,
Harrow, Middlesex.

هنا من النظم

Farmer's Diary: Paul Heiney

Stable mates bid for power

THE only item in our old stable that relates in any way to the latter half of this century is a transistor radio, I switch it on for the early morning news and more often than not it stays switched on. However, I have decided that I must be more careful about leaving it blaring. The political upheavals of the past week have proved infectious, and the farm is now in the midst of its own leadership battle.

To predict the outcome you need to know the contenders for the crown and the deviousness of the electoral system. When we had only two horses life was simple. Punch was premier, Punch is a good-looking horse, intelligent but self-willed. For a decade he has been paired with Star, his deputy, who is as good a workhorse as anyone could wish for. Star is never bad-tempered and has never refused to pull with all his might. I heard that a previous owner had accidentally driven Star into a ditch so deep it needed the fire brigade to drag him out. When the rescue team arrived, it found the peaceful Star up to his knees in mud, eyes half closed, blissfully enjoying the fresh grass growing up the sides of the deep drain and blaming nobody. It took a crane to lift him out, after which the old salesman was put back between the shafts and smiled off as if nothing had happened. It was his finest hour.

But as in politics, so in the farmyard: it is not always the best man that wins. For most of his working life the down-trodden Star has been ruled by his chippy companion Punch, who can be bad-tempered. Sensing when it is time for work he will fling his head to the rafters to make it more difficult to get his collar on. When ploughing, he will stop, irritatingly, half way along the furrow if he thinks it is time he has a rest. You may curse, even scream at him, but he shows his insolent mastery by moving off as slowly as he knows how.

Back at the stable he ruthlessly reaffirms his status by pawing the concrete floor with his front feet if he is not fed before the others. He knows that to a farmer who has to pay ever-increasing blacksmith's bills, nothing grates like the sound of the needless scraping of a £10 iron horseshoe.

So the old ruler reigned unchallenged until the spring, when

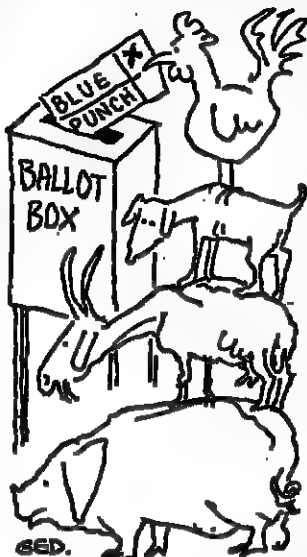
our new young horse, Blue, arrived. I have already detailed the bitter battle that raged the night he moved in. Equine teeth were bared and those who feel wounded by political back-biting can think themselves lucky they did not have the angry Punch coming at their spines with mouth wide open. There was no second ballot.

Things settled down for the long hot summer and each horse made his own territory on the meadow: Blue standing apart from the others, younger and fitter, with his flowing mane. It looked as though nothing could upset the old order. But when the season turned and the days grew shorter, I brought the horses back to the yard for the winter. Punch, at 15 years old, is looking his age. It is rare for him to go ploughing, for Blue and the

ever youthful Star make an easily worked and efficient team. Blue, sensing that Punch may be losing his grip, is seizing his opportunity. Hence the leadership crisis. We have a hayrack at which Punch and Star used to feed, with Blue approaching only when they had finished. Now I notice he is standing his ground, and if he gets there first he will not budge. It means more back-biting, more aggravation. Fearing an accident, I have been putting a separate pile of hay in the corner away from the rest, so that he can feed in peace. But as soon as the horses are released from the stable Punch, I notice, walks straight over to his rival's hay and piddles all over it. His political technique would be the envy of even the most ruthless parliamentary chief whip.

I am not quite certain which of them will emerge as the new leader. When I open the stable door in the morning, I observe closely the order in which they file through. Blue, I'm sorry to say, is still last. Surprisingly, Star is occasionally first. Perhaps the dark horse will make it after all.

Which horse decides it is boss matters little; the farm is a dictatorship. If any of them start getting above themselves I warn them that the phone number of the cat meat man is at hand. However, dictators have been having a difficult time lately and with the anniversaries of events in eastern Europe, I think the radio must be silenced. It gives the carthorses too many ideas.



House with thatched eyebrows

Home from home: Deborah Kellaway

On the table in front of the window overlooking a London square is a big pot of sugar pink Jersey lilies (narcissus), curvaceous and confident, glancing grey November days in the city. They had been flowering since the beginning of October at Deborah Kellaway's home in Norfolk, "flopping about either side of our garden door".

Mrs Kellaway and her husband bought their country cottage, with its acre and a half of land, 25 years ago. The cottage, three or four hundred years old with two huge beamed fireplaces, had been recently restored, and had "such a pretty little face, with two upstairs windows like eyes under curved thatched eyebrows", but the land had fallen derelict.

When they began work on the garden, the weeds stood as high as their eldest, nine-year-old daughter, Kate. By the time they had cleared them, and cut back the overgrown hedges which had obscured far-reaching views from the hedgerow oak over the meadows beyond, the cottage stood not so much in a garden as in a Siberian landscape. Bleak and bare, it was without perspective, the points of reference which trees and paths and borders bestow to make a house fit into its countryside.

The story of how Mrs Kellaway achieved that fit was told in her book *The Making of an English Country Garden*, published in 1988. Last month she published its corollary, *The Making of Town Gardens*. Her books are a pleasure for the non-gardener and gardener alike. There are no long lists, no deadly hints. The thread of her whole life runs through the development of the gardens.

For several years after her marriage in 1952 the room intended for a baby's nursery in the Kellaways' London home was, instead, a nursery for begonias. As the years went by there were more begonias, but still no baby. Then, "after five years of planting", Mrs Kellaway writes, "a change came over the garden. There was a pram on the lawn."

With the arrival of the children came the urge to get away somewhere for holidays. "And I did think the English countryside was so beautiful - for the softness of the light and the green."

Mrs Kellaway had been brought up in Australia. She was "knocked sideways" by Oxford in October when she came to England to do her degree in 1946. "Old stone, green lawns, autumn trees." But the desire for a second home arose because she had not really chosen her first one. "It belonged to my mother-in-law and we lived at the top in a flat. She generously gave it to us when she went back to Australia. It was a lovely house, but I hadn't chosen it."

Perhaps that was part of the



Out of dereliction comes forth beauty: Deborah Kellaway harvests the pleasures of the cottage garden she and her husband created in Norfolk

appeal of the unmade garden at the Norfolk cottage, which involved an orgy of choosing. Mrs Kellaway and her husband would drive down with their three children, two dogs and the cat for school holidays, at half-term and, if they could, every third weekend.

There were quarry tiles to be chosen for the kitchen, and furniture. She bought beech chairs with a carved rail on turned legs for 12s.6d (about 63p) at auction and a rectangular oak drop-leaf table for £2.

Above all, there was choosing for the garden. It is glorious now. Two Irish yew trees frame the face of the cottage. The little window in the kitchen with its six fixed panes looks out over a herb garden, with towering angelica, through a clearing in the woodland and over to the fields. A long lawn runs through the herbaceous border, flanked by a "very mild" tiered

yew hedge, sloping to the willows and the water meadow beyond. For years the planting was governed by the school holidays when the Kellaways would be there and restricted by the impossibility of daily watering when they were not.

There were no "giant June flowering beauties which all need staking". The blues are *Eryngium yuccifolium*, 2ft tall with lots of little "mist-blue thimbles growing out of a stiff, starry ruff of sepals", and the globe thistle, *Echinops ritro*, "beloved of bees".

The pinks are Japanese anemones and *Lavatera rosea*. Tubs of *Agapanthus campanulatus* thrive without water and surround the eating areas, paved with pumice-stones. "Norfolk brick things".

The Kellaways eat outside most of the summer, beside the tall pink

waving *Salvia turkestanica* and the huge flat yellow heads of *Achillea filipendula*. Clematis, jasmine and honeysuckle riot up the whitewashed walls, and up to the thatch.

Corresponding discoveries were made in the town garden: *Homelia lyallii*, from which Mrs Kellaway learnt that "white flowers, not bright flowers, give the greatest sense of space and liberation in a city when summer comes", and a fig tree for "its sheer leafiness and hint of Mediterranean sun that makes it life-enhancing in a city garden".

For winter flowering they chose which hazel and viburnum. *Viburnum bodnantense* Debden saw them through the Christmas holidays and longer - "until the daffodils came out" - and they look after themselves.

Now the children are grown-up, and Mrs Kellaway has given up

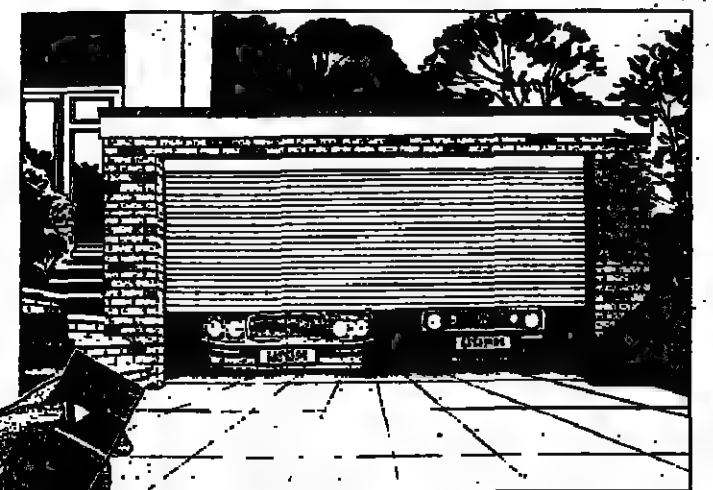
her part-time job teaching English at a girls' school in Camden, north London, she and her husband, a retired historian, are no longer restricted to holiday flowerings and planting in Norfolk. Her husband looks after all the grass and the quite ridiculous yards of hedges. He likes the lawn to have a neat frame; and then I can have untidy flowers within. We are tied to the garden, but it's so good for us. It is our work; I'd be lost without it.

The cottage was newly thatched when they bought it. They had it rethatched 12 years later, but not with Norfolk reed. "The thatcher said, 'Oh, straw'll see you out', but it hasn't. It needs doing again."

ELUNED PRICE

● *The Making of an English Country Garden (Chilton & Windus, paperback, £7.99). The Making of Town Gardens (Macmillan, £14.95).*

CRACK CRIME THE CONTINENTAL WAY



OPEN UP THE AUTOMATIC WAY

British homes come in every style and size imaginable. But the main threat to a happy life there always remains the same. Housebreakers.

Fortunately, there's an equally standard solution. Cordula Roller Shutters, already fitted on 25 million homes throughout Europe.

They're excellent for heat and sound insulation; minimising storm damage too. They roll effortlessly up and disappear into their unobtrusive housing when not in use. And Cordula are Britain's leading suppliers with a country-wide team of craftsman-fitters.

0270 764433

24 HOURS, 7 DAYS A WEEK

To Cordula, Freeport, Southport, Cheshire CW11 9PB. (No stamp needed.) Please send me full details of: ☐ Cordula Roller Shutters. ☐ Remote Control Garage Doors. Tick as appropriate.

NAME _____ ADDRESS _____ COUNTY _____ POST CODE _____ TELEPHONE _____ H/99/f.

CORDULA

Cordula automatic garage doors, operated by a remote control beam so that you can now open or close your garage without even leaving the car.

Tailor made in tough, foamfilled, stove enamelled aluminium, perfect for keeping out the weather as well as the car thieves and available in a wide range of colours. The ultimate in security and convenience. Phone now or complete the coupon above.

BREEDING rabbits is a fast moving business, according to Edwin Sutton, who worriedly checks his watch, rather like Alice's White Rabbit. He is rushing to clear a consignment destined at Kuala Lumpur airport, in Malaysia. His company, Hyline Rabbits, of Lymington, Cheshire, exports breeding stock to about 50 countries.

He says his business helps to alleviate world hunger, and claims the Pope has predicted that by the year 2000 a third of the world's population would be sustained by rabbit meat.

The financial prospects for the business look healthy, says Mr Sutton, who has spent £100,000 developing his Simonside stock. "The export potential is tremendous," he says. "We produce only 44,000 rabbits a week in Britain, but the French farmers produce 10 million a week. The French housewife prefers black rabbits, buying the animal whole."

In this country, housewives keeping rabbits in their back gardens account for 40 per cent of his customers. His "maternity ward" holds about 20,000 rabbits.

Mr Sutton's interest in rabbits started in 1955 when his wife, Eileen, bought one for six shillings (about 30p) at an outdoor market. The rabbit proved to be pregnant.

The rabbit proved to be pregnant.

THE COUNTRY EVENTS

THIS WEEKEND

● **Tuition Tree and Garden** - Weekend: Sale of many different garden plants, exhibition of garden paintings and information about the 1991 gardening courses. Tomorrow only, programme of children's events for National Tree Week. **Tuition Tree**, Knutsford, Cheshire (0565 654 822). Today 1-4pm, tomorrow noon-4pm. Admission to party £1.10, child 60p; £1.30 per car.

● **Powdermill Castle** antique fair. General pre-1901 date. Jewellery, toys, ceramics, prints and paintings will all be dated pre-1920. **Powdermill Castle**, near Sturminster Newton, Dorset. Further information: 01624 521 82. Today 2-8pm, tomorrow 10.30am-5pm. Admission £1.

● **Christmas in Heworth** village. Every weekend from today until Christmas the village of Brontë's family home is decorated with festive lights, traders will wear period costume and there will be street entertainers and brass bands. **Heworth, Keighley, West Yorkshire**. Today and all Saturdays before Christmas.

● **Christmas shopping** at the farm. Seasonal refreshments, Christmas craft stalls, a farm trail with nativity scene and an

opportunity to make Christmas decorations. **Marsh Farm Country Park**, South Woodham Fosses, near Chelmsford, Essex (0245 321 552). Today, tomorrow 10am-5pm. Adult £1.50, child £1.

● **Santa Special Steam Train**: Santa Claus travels on the train giving presents to children; in Kent, adult passengers receive hot punch and mince pies. **Embsay Steam Railway**, near Skipton, North Yorkshire (0756 795 189). Kent and East Sussex Steam Railway, Tenterden, Kent (0586 1569). Tomorrow and every Sunday until Christmas.

● **RSPB demonstration**: Experts explain how to make and shape and position of which will determine the kind of birds likely to take up residence. **Wildfowl Trust, Martin Mere, Ormskirk**. Today, tomorrow. For further information: 0704 695181.

● **East Cheshire guided walk**: Two walks will be held tomorrow, one with an architectural and also a national history scene around the parish of Bewcastle.

Meet at Bewcastle Church at 1pm for a five-mile walk; be sure to wear strong footwear. The other walk has a history scene exploring Penrith and Hutton. Meet at Penrith Village Hall at 10.30am for a six-mile walk. Take packed lunch. Mince pie provided for tea.

● **Plant a Tree Walk**: Join the Border Rangers in a three-mile walk to help plant trees around Lindean Reservoir and discuss the merits of different types of tree as providers of habitat and food for wildlife.

Meet Lindean Reservoir two miles east of Selkirk tomorrow by 1pm. For further information telephone: 0836 23301 ext 433.

● **RHS demonstrations**: At Parsonage College of Horticulture, Worcester, on Wed from 2-4pm: planting hedges and screens. For further information: 0885 522443.

At the RHS headquarters, Wisley Garden, Surrey, on Wed, Thurs and Sat (10.30am-noon): growing grapes under glass. Tickets for the latter £8 in advance from Wisley. For further information: 0483 224234.

● **Castle Howard** antique fair: 35 selected exhibitors will be selling their wares in the grandeur of stately home roomings.

All items will have been vetted by Sotheby's, BADA and Lapada. Most dealers will be pre-1890 except for jewellery, silver, lamps and linens, garden furniture, mirrors and glass which will be pre-1920; some of the porcelain, china, books, oils and watercolours will be pre-1930.

Castle Howard, near York. Wed 2-8pm, Thurs to Sat 11am-6pm, Sun 11am-5pm. Admission £3.50.

Carolina rabbit, a rapid grower and breeder with a light bone structure and lots of meat. New Zealand Whites are another strain he recommends for beginner breeders.

Happy rabbits doing what comes naturally mean that a £24 purchase of a doe and buck will earn about £60 a year net.

"Ten rabbits take 20 minutes a day to look after," Mr Sutton says. They eat green stuff, from carrot tops to cabbage stalks, and pelleted food costing £160 a ton, which is also available in small packs.

The does start breeding at five-and-a-half months and, after 28 days' gestation, produce between eight and 14 offspring. His does each produce 60 offspring a year. The floppy bunny image transferred to the dinner plate may be hard to swallow, but Mr Sutton says that lean, high-protein rabbit meat, chopped and pre-packed at supermarkets, is a big seller.

Mr Sutton also offers a marketing service for clients - "The rabbits are collected live for delivery to the abattoirs, where electrocution is used" - holds open days and runs courses in rabbit farming.

SANDY BISOP
Edwin Sutton, Hyline Rabbits, Lymington, Cheshire WA13913 9BT. (02575 3005/314010).

Bre
the

Whing
and a
trayer

SAVE 50%
on the most popular
books in the world
at the lowest prices
ever.

Bread of haven in the Welsh valleys

Jo Reardon Smith says: "Everybody talks about everything... but perhaps I wouldn't sit down and talk to them about the war."

Mrs Reardon Smith, who lives in a village near Cardiff, has "adopted" two German families who have recently moved to Wales. The arrangement is part of a scheme set up by Welsh Development International (WDI), a division of the public-funded Welsh Development Agency, for Robert Bosch, the German engineering company which has established its first UK plant at Miskin, south Glamorgan. More than 30 employees have followed it from Germany, and a number of British women have been recruited to help their families to settle in.

"Everything's gone fine, very well," says Mrs Reardon Smith, aged 49, "but it was potentially a bit awkward on the poppy weekend when the village had a big thing in front of the memorial. None of us mentioned it."

The British wife looks after her German counterpart for eight weeks, and is paid a small sum to cover her petrol, telephone, and time. Her duties include ringing her charge daily to see how she is, and spending half a day each week with her to take her to the supermarket, help her buy curtains, find a doctor, join the local leisure centre, and so on.

"All mundane domestic things," Mrs Reardon Smith says. "I organised a birthday cake for one of the children, for example, and sorted out confusing water bills. I love it. They have come into our community. I want to show off the things we have here to advantage. It fits in with my other part-time job as PR for a country house hotel." One of her "adopted" families, Dieter and Burgi Wohlfarth and their two children, from Stuttgart, arrived in July, but "there wasn't a cut-off point after the two months," Mrs Reardon Smith says. "We'll always be friends. I admire the

When 30 German workers moved to Wales, locals went out of their way to help, reports Candida Crewe

German's methodical ways—how they set up the factory, get their houses fixed. I've had the two families under my wing up for Sunday lunch—roast beef and Yorkshire pudding, of course."

In the village pub, Stefan and Martina Zuendorf and Mrs Reardon Smith are contemplating the ploughman's lunch.

Fran Zuendorf, aged 29, has left his chartered accountant's job back home to be a housewife here. "The people here find everything so beautiful," she says. "Our English is always 'great', 'perfect'. They're so complimentary and polite. We have to get used to it."

"We are more honest," says her husband, aged 29, an accountant at Bosch. "For example, there was this lady I met who had a gruff voice. I asked if she had caught a cold. She said no, perhaps it was because she talked too much. I told her, yes, possibly. I think she was a bit surprised."

The three couples spoke to mentioned the same things. They thought it odd that we eat sandwiches at lunchtime and a big dinner in the evening, and not vice versa. And our lack of environmental awareness struck them all—they cited the lack of recycling facilities here.

"We have a garbage problem in Germany like here," says Beate Turner, aged 39, who is looked after by Sue Reardon Smith, Jo's sister-in-law. "But here, when I asked some man about it, he said: 'We have the Bristol Channel.'"

Fran Turner and her husband Gerhard (a managing director at Bosch) come from Stuttgart and have two children. She says fondly of Sue: "She came over every day to start with so you had the feeling you weren't a nobody."

Fran Turner and Fran Zuendorf have both noted a segregation of the sexes here. "Women aren't so self-confident, nor so integrated," Fran Zuendorf says. The Turners have a house-warming party for the neighbours and were amazed by how the room divided—men one end, women the other.

The Turners' modern house in Cardiff has thick carpets and leather sofas. "Your curtains are very luxurious and comfortable," Herr Turner says. "There you are well ahead. But your heating system and water taps are below standard. In Germany a shower is a real shower."

House prices and the cost of luxuries are higher here, and education is more advanced, they say. Children start school earlier in Britain, learn to read younger, and are more disciplined. "The German people have fewer children, so we want to do our best for them," Fran Zuendorf says. "They're more individual. Here people are friendly with them, but they have to do what the parents want."

Fran Zuendorf is pregnant, and "shocked" by the health system. "I think British people live on completely another standard," she says. "To see six women in one room! And such old carpets in the hospital..." She is, however, "impressed by the delivery methods, the new ideas."

But she has no complaints about Jo Reardon Smith, who has taken her to the theatre, shops, a local fashion show, and introduced her to someone who can give English lessons. She says: "I don't know what I would have done without her. Back in Germany we don't have this much support. Jo is a real friend."



Firm friends: Jo Reardon Smith (foreground) with one of her "adopted" German families, the Wohlfarths

Tomes of the seasons

A new shop has its heart in the country

THERE are few less likely settings for rural pursuits than Goodge Street, London W1. Stumbling upon No 39 is a strange experience for it is the home of the Countryside Bookshop which, although only a few months old, can claim a rare commitment to the concept of *rus in urbe*.

Sadly, on the day I went there, it was sparsely visited. There had just been a signing session by Roddy Llewellyn to help launch his collection of garden furniture, and the place was all trellised grooves and kissing chairs.

These are early days for a venture whose very existence is a pointer to the popularity of country literature. There are about 6,500 titles on the premises, the result of colossal toil by Susan Ready, the managing director. "I started sending off for the relevant books," she says, "but to begin with the reps simply didn't show up. They only seem to bother once you get established. We have just produced our own mail order catalogue so people in the country can get books from us without coming up to London."

It has virtually every category of book with even the most tenuous country link, and second-handers with such gems as Odham's *Lovely Britain*, Blandford's *Countryside Mood*, and Sir Ray Lankester's *Some Diversions of a Naturalist*, half-a-crown in 1925.

It all sounds like an unlikely departure for the owner, Felix Dennis, a computer consultant and publisher, until you learn he is a passionate walker. If his name is familiar, that is because 20 years ago he was downright famous as one of the defendants in the *Oz* magazine trial.

ALAN FRANKS
Catalogues from: The Countryside Bookshop, 39 Goodge Street, London W1P 1ED (071-636 3150).

Feather report

Whinge and a prayer

SHORT-eared owls are rather special. For a start, you can see them in the day. They are best seen in winter, in places where savage winds cut across treeless expanses. They love winter marshland: short-eared owls are pretty tough birds. They have the fiercest faces of all the British owls, with improbably bright yellow eyes.

Let me tell you about a rather wonderful place where you can get up to a dozen of them spending the winter. This place is also a roost for wintering hen harriers, as glorious a bird as you could hope to see anywhere in Britain, and it attracts nationally important numbers of teal, those absurdly handsome little ducks with red-green heads. You also get pintail and ruff.

In summer, this grazing marsh supports breeding redshank and lapwing, both declining species in England, and the site is an important stop-off point for migrating birds: so much so that over the past 20 years it has attracted about 170 species—phenomenal by British standards.

Where is this site? London, I'm sure you thought. It is a place of such splendour exists within the capital. And it is a protected area, too, a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). So what are the management plans for this place of wonder?

For a start, the Department of Transport plans to bung a road straight through it. Next, a bunch of developers want to bung a theme park on it.

The site is Rainham Marshes, and there is a public enquiry continuing into the plans for the A13 road. Green issues are a popular concern: recent years have even given us the phenomenon of turquoise politics. Many conservationists see the A13 enquiry as a test case: just how



serious are government bodies about conservation?

The Nature Conservancy Council, the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds and the London Wildlife Trust are all preparing to state their cases at this enquiry in the coming weeks. All see this as an important issue: the government's credibility on green issues is at stake.

The LWT has pointed out other sites which the A13 will also damage irreparably. These include a pond complex inside the Dagenham Ford works, which the trust manages, and Rainham Creek. The A13 plans include a slip-road that will go "bang through Marsh Dykes, where they couldn't do more damage if they tried," according to Phil Hurst, the LWT campaigner.

Kevin Bayes, the Thames and Chiltern conservation officer for the RSPB, says: "We are very concerned with the way the DoT tends to deal with conservation issues."

The DoT's view could be summed up as "how can we shut up all these twits, tits and boobybodies and get on with building our road?" Conservationists are seen as an opposition special interest group, rather than people working for a decent future for everybody.

In short, it seems that there has been no important change of thinking. The only difference that

Taking note of the natural timbre

Originals: Tim Wade, chair bodger

TIM Wade is 6ft 6in tall and knows how difficult it can be to find a comfortable chair. Luckily, he can come up with some of the solutions to this problem himself. He is a bodger, which means he makes chairs by traditional methods, working mostly with green or unseasoned woods. He has been a full-time bodger for five years, one of the few of a new generation of such craftsmen.

His most recent challenge was to make a ladderback rocking chair for a woman who was 6ft 3in, weighed 18st, measured 24in across the hips, and wanted to be able to rest her head on the back of the chair. "When she came to collect it, she did not see herself gently into the chair to try it out, the way most people do. She just dropped down—plonk. It held up," he says. Such customised comfort, with Mr Wade's signature carved on it, costs £250.

Appropriately for National Tree Week, which started on Thursday, yet another piece of Mr Wade's work, commissioned for the Woodland Trust's "Seats in our Woods" scheme, is in Garth Dingle, Powys, mid Wales. Mr Wade says the seat, made chiefly in oak, is "an overstretched Windsor chair", to seat four people. Screening the back of the seat is a wattle hurdle which incorporates 17 Welsh hardwoods. "If people sit on all of them, they can win a chair," he says.

cleaved along its natural growth, instead of being cut by a power saw in straight lines, it does not split. He carves the wood for chairbacks and arms by steaming it in the place where it grew.

The term bodger, for someone who starts a job by making components, may have originated from the men who worked in the woods around High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, making parts for the local furniture factories. The word could also be derived from "badger", as a nickname for the men who lived in the woods.

The last of the original chair bodgers retired in the Fifties, Mr Wade says. Their work was hard and routine, a new band of bodgers grew up, this time making the complete chair.

The son of a cabinet maker in Richmond upon Thames, Surrey, Mr Wade does not waste odd pieces of wood, making garden dibbers for £2.50, babies' rattles at £4 and garden rakes at £15. His most expensive chair is the Welsh traditional stick back, at £300.



Craftsman's pride: Tim Wade and one of his Windsor carver chairs

1/2 HIGH STREET PRICES
ON COMPARABLE MOUNTAIN BIKES

FULL 10 YEAR FRAME GUARANTEE

SPECIAL OFFER
FAMOUS BRAND-MULTI GEARED
MOUNTAIN BIKES
BRITAIN'S MOST POPULAR BIKE

UNTIL NOW here in the UK the drawback has been shortage of supply and a price in the £300... £400... £500 and over £700 price bracket (excl. tax).

NOW - by special negotiation with one of Europe's largest cycle distributors, Sterling House has secured an exclusive quantity for retail order sales - AND WELL AND TRULY SMASHED THE HIGH PRICE BARRIER.

Manufactured to stringent British Standards BS2626 (parts 1 and 2) with all latest bicycles (more commonly known as mountain bikes) are without question Britain's most popular bikes - and great for youngsters and adults alike. Suitable for the busy city and those rougher off the road terrains.

Superbly engineered with full 10 year frame GUARANTEE FOR 10 YEARS. Multi-geared with 12 speed and 24 speed options.

split gear lever. Side rail brakes with ATB levers. Safety reflectors at front, rear and on pedals and wheels. Chain, extra wide tyres to cushion your ride. Comprehensive parts and labour guarantee. Money refunded if not 100% satisfied.

FOR ADULTS - 24" wheel model from £135 (up to £145) 26" wheel colour RED/WHITE, £205 + tax. Two-tone colour BLUE/WHITE, £205 + tax. Allow 7 to 14 day despatch - unless advised otherwise. Offer applies to U.K. incl. N. Ireland.

NOTE: Customers ordering in NEW FULL REPRESENTATIVE WHOLESALE CHAINS will receive a FREE GIFT. **REPOCKET** - If ordered now as a gift, you can return after Xmas (or before) if unsuitable.

PAY Half NOW
BALANCE ON DELIVERY

NOW ONLY £99.95 + CARR

DESPATCHED BY RETURN FROM MANUFACTURER

CREDIT CARD HOLDERS CAN ORDER NOW ON
0702-331411 (24 HOURS)

STERLING HOUSE (Dun T47MB)
507-511 LONDON ROAD, WESTCLIFF, ESSEX SS0 9LF

Please send me ☐ ADULT 24" or ☐ ADULT 26" FRAME
I enclose £50.00 + £4.95 cash NOW and agree to pay balance on delivery.

☐ I prefer to send TOTAL PRICE NOW to claim SURPRISE FREE GIFT.
I enclose cheque/P.O. or debit my CREDIT CARD.

Number _____
Signature _____
Mr/Ms/Mrs _____
Address _____
Post Code _____

Division of Sterling Resources (UK) Ltd. Reg. No. 1412554.

SPAIN WITHOUT STRAIN.

AUTUMN/WINTER FARE SAVERS.

Why get stuck in a charter queue when you head off to Spain? Not when you could be enjoying the comfort and scheduled reliability of a Money saver instead. And if you book now, just look at the extra savings you could make with one of our special Autumn/Winter schedule offers right up to the 21st March (excluding 14th-24th December).

SAVE 50% with 1st OFFER
on one Money saver fare when two people fly together on our new Gatwick services this winter.

FROM: GATWICK
TO: BARCELONA, MADRID AND MALAGA

SAVE 25% with 2nd OFFER
on one Money saver fare when two people fly together.

FROM: HEATHROW, MANCHESTER AND BIRMINGHAM
TO: ALICANTE, ALMERIA, BIZA, JEREZ, MAHON, MALAGA, PALMA, VALENCIA, LAS PALMAS, TENERIFE, SEVILLE, MADRID, BARCELONA, SIBAO AND SANTIAGO

There are still more ways to save with Money savers this winter. Ask about our special **Discounts for Children** and our **Winter Breaker** offers for the over 60s.

Every Money saver comes with a unique peace of mind guarantee, which includes no exchanges, no extra to pay and no flight cancellations.

For instant bookings, contact your local travel agent or nearest Iberia office.

London 071 427 8422. Manchester 021 643 1703. Birmingham 091 434 5444. Glasgow 041 248 0351.

IBERIA
AIRLINES OF SPAIN
WARM TO THE EXPERIENCE.

1/2 HIGH STREET PRICES
ON COMPARABLE MOUNTAIN BIKES

FULL 10 YEAR FRAME GUARANTEE

SPECIAL OFFER
FAMOUS BRAND-MULTI GEARED
MOUNTAIN BIKES
BRITAIN'S MOST POPULAR BIKE

UNTIL NOW here in the UK the drawback has been shortage of supply and a price in the £300... £400... £500 and over £700 price bracket (excl. tax).

NOW - by special negotiation with one of Europe's largest cycle distributors, Sterling House has secured an exclusive quantity for retail order sales - AND WELL AND TRULY SMASHED THE HIGH PRICE BARRIER.

Manufactured to stringent British Standards BS2626 (parts 1 and 2) with all latest bicycles (more commonly known as mountain bikes) are without question Britain's most popular bikes - and great for youngsters and adults alike. Suitable for the busy city and those rougher off the road terrains.

Superbly engineered with full 10 year frame GUARANTEE FOR 10 YEARS. Multi-geared with 12 speed and 24 speed options.

split gear lever. Side rail brakes with ATB levers. Safety reflectors at front, rear and on pedals and wheels. Chain, extra wide tyres to cushion your ride. Comprehensive parts and labour guarantee. Money refunded if not 100% satisfied.

FOR ADULTS - 24" wheel model from £135 (up to £145) 26" wheel colour RED/WHITE, £205 + tax. Two-tone colour BLUE/WHITE, £205 + tax. Allow 7 to 14 day despatch - unless advised otherwise. Offer applies to U.K. incl. N. Ireland.

NOTE: Customers ordering in NEW FULL REPRESENTATIVE WHOLESALE CHAINS will receive a FREE GIFT. **REPOCKET** - If ordered now as a gift, you can return after Xmas (or before) if unsuitable.

PAY Half NOW
BALANCE ON DELIVERY

NOW ONLY £99.95 + CARR

DESPATCHED BY RETURN FROM MANUFACTURER

CREDIT CARD HOLDERS CAN ORDER NOW ON
0702-331411 (24 HOURS)

STERLING HOUSE (Dun T47MB)
507-511 LONDON ROAD, WESTCLIFF, ESSEX SS0 9LF

Please send me ☐ ADULT 24" or ☐ ADULT 26" FRAME
I enclose £50.00 + £4.95 cash NOW and agree to pay balance on delivery.

☐ I prefer to send TOTAL PRICE NOW to claim SURPRISE FREE GIFT.
I enclose cheque/P.O. or debit my CREDIT CARD.

Number _____
Signature _____
Mr/Ms/Mrs _____
Address _____
Post Code _____

Division of Sterling Resources (UK) Ltd. Reg. No. 1412554.

Help: Denise Katz, organiser

The national elf service

High-Speed Rail Speeds Up

Less stress? The tiny cars that dart in and out of traffic queues in Paris should ease motorists' frustrations, but they also have their drawbacks

● For further details contact: **Alcom Automobiles**, 56 Route de Pugnay, 73100 Allex-Bains, France (010 33 79 61 42 43). **Automobiles Beiler**, Rue de la Petite-Garlère, BP 217, 85106 Les Sables-d'Olonne, France (010 33 51 90 27 27). **Mardén SA**, Hazout-sur-Mer, 76550 Offranville, France (010 33 33 84 36 12). **Microcar Automobiles, Société Jeanneau**, BP 83, 85503 Les Herbiers, France (010 33 51 91 06 10).

"I much prefer shopping with a creative brief than simply searching for a particular item," she says. "But, in either case, I shop in a systematic, time-effective way having first sussed out a store so I

VICTORIA MCKEE



VICTORIA MCKEE

VICTORIA MCKEE

The Irish dig in on treasure

Despite harsh penalties, the republic's law's on treasure trove are flouted, and curators are turning detective, says Sarah Jane Checkland

The Republic of Ireland authorities have got tough on treasure trove. Having tightened the law so that, unlike England and Wales, the state is entitled without argument to all treasure found on its soil, the National Museum of Ireland's curators have turned vigilantes, working closely with detectives to bring back items excavated and exported.

Because of the rich pickings involved, the effort has been successful. "Museum officials have been subject to threats and attempts at bribery," says Dr Eamonn Kelly, a curator with the national museum. Meanwhile, the international Metal Detectors Society has invested £250,000 in a legal fund to protect its interests. Last week, the Irish authorities sent ripples of dismay through the British art world by claiming two items based in London: a pair of cannons bought by the Royal Armaments.

On show in the Tower of London, the 16th century cannons by the British makers John and Robert Owen was, its display label says, recovered from an unidentified wreck off the Irish coast. "I am reasonably confident it was raised off the Waterford coast," Dr Kelly says. "A police enquiry is in train into a number of cannons."

Graham Rimer, a curator at the Tower, says: "There was no skulduggery. It has never been established where the cannons came from, whether the Irish or Sussex coast."

Had the guns not been bought by the Armaments, he says, the British art dealer who sold them, D.R. Perry, of Harpenden, Hertfordshire, could have meted them down because of lack of interest from the market.

Of the early bronze age, sheet-gold lunula, or crescentic collar, Dr Kelly says: "We have been tracking it down since it was found

in the Irish Republic in 1975." After attempts to dispose of it within the republic, it went to the United Kingdom two years ago, turning up now at Christie's, he says, adding: "The file has been sent to our attorney-general."

Christie's insists that it is not representing the vendor, but was approached by her simply for a valuation. "The owner of this thing has been dealing with a museum," a spokesman says. "She wanted a second opinion on the value and came to us."

By Irish law, an export licence must be obtained for the removal of all archaeological objects, but until 1987 the fine was only £50.

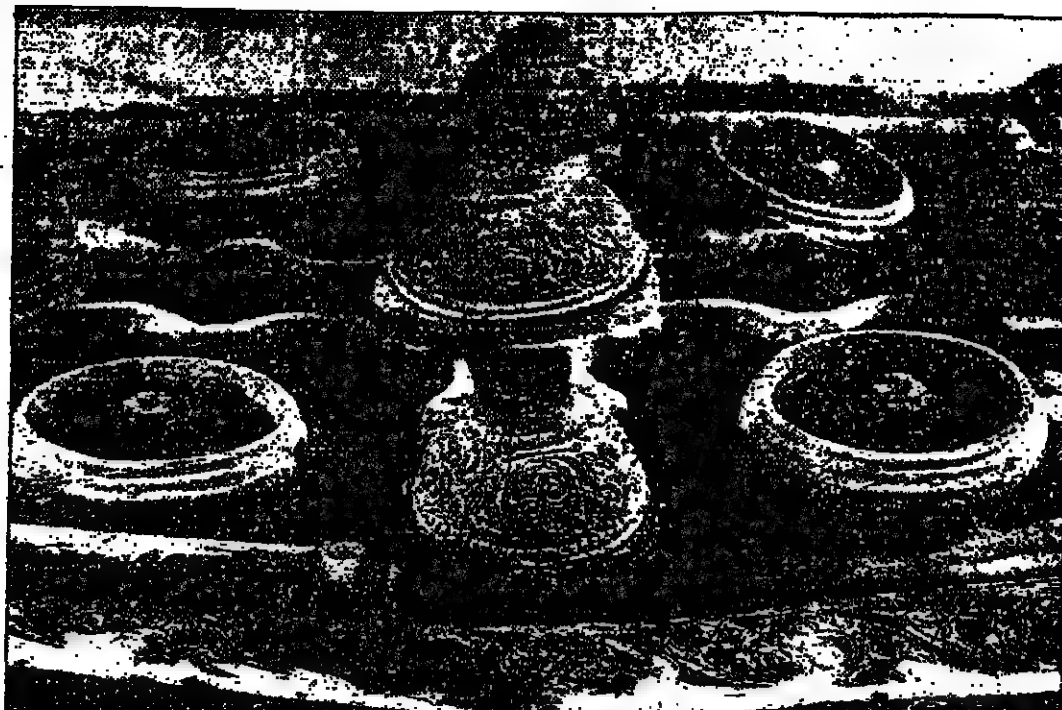
With the boom in cheap metal detectors in the Seventies, treasure hunting became a leading international pursuit on land and at sea. With much of the wrecked Spanish armada lying along the Waterford coast, there are rich pickings.

"The treasure hunters were tied into a network of dealers," Dr Kelly says. "The main outlet was London." There was obviously also an element of opportunism among individuals as the hobby developed its own cachet. Prospective buyers advertised in treasure-hunting magazines, such as *Searcher*, which is available in Britain and the Irish Republic. They also used official lists of protected monuments.

One method of shaking off claims was to change provenances for the bronze-age swords and Viking bracelets being sent to Britain, or to say items were found in Northern Ireland.

Taking decisive action in 1987, the authorities increased the penalty was increased in 1987 to £50,000 and a year's imprisonment, and banned the use of metal detectors.

By contrast, English law states that if finders of treasure trove declare finds promptly and properly, they can expect their finds to be returned, or to receive an award equivalent to the market value. Also in 1987, the Irish supreme court overruled claims by two British treasure hunters, Michael Webb and his son, also



This 8th century book shrine was intercepted by Irish officials after attempts were made to sell it in England



Officials believe these 16th century cannons, on show in the Tower of London, were raised off the Irish coast

called Michael, on a £5.25 million board they had found at Derrynish. The decision was that the material - cannons and the like - was state property under article two of the Irish constitution.

The government initiative left the way open for a series of successful claims by the state, including the 8th century Lough Kinsale book shrine, found in the summer of 1986 on the bed of a loch in County Longford. It is the earliest and largest such wooden box decorated with a series of ornamental bronze mountings yet discovered. Irish officials intercepted it after efforts were made to sell it in Britain.

A 16th century cannon found this year by divers off Cape Clear Island, County Cork, and taken by car to England, was claimed last July following a tip-off from a Manchester museum. Last month, a museum in Weston-super-Mare, Avon, voluntarily returned some bone samples which had been in its possession for 80 years. Tactics to dissuade looters included an attack in 1987 by An Talca, the Irish equivalent of the National

As guilty as a discarded sock

A burglar's cast-off footwear has provided a lead into the specialist world of the art thief

WAYNE SPART had a less than satisfactory career snatching handbags until he met a fellow guest of Her Majesty who promised fresh opportunities. Eusac Fagin invited Mr Spart (not their real names) to his home where, instead of being offered advice on coshes and bags marked swag, Mr Spart found himself in a sizeable gathering equipped with pens and paper and seated before a slide screen. Mr Fagin then delivered an inspiring lecture on antique pottery and porcelain, and ended his talk by handing out *Cushion and Honey*, the definitive book on porcelain marks.

The following week Mr Fagin explained silverware, (including useful details on dating by assay marks), the next week furniture, and so on until graduation day, when Mr Fagin launched his alumni into the world.

Mr Spart had not inadvertently enrolled at the Sotheby's or Christie's fine art courses. He was being groomed to join an expanding band of specialist art thieves. His story was told by the loss adjuster John Suter, of Davies & Company, at last weekend's art theft conference in Plymouth. Amid relentlessly gloomy statistics (more than a million premises burgled in 1989, with more forecast due to a combination of the recession and 1992 and only a 5 per cent recovery rate) two things became clear: the population must become more careful about their security arrangements, and the best trackers of stolen art are not the police, but those with a financial incentive, such as loss adjusters like Mr Suter.

Loss adjusters also have ample opportunity to observe the behavioural patterns and psychology of their prey.

Mr Spart and his fellows divide them into three divisions:

● Top of the league are the sophisticated gangs, run by receivers. They plan their projects down to every last detail, with specialists on reconnaissance, security and packing. The receiver pays - 10 per cent of the true market value - only when he has checked that everything on his list is present and has not been damaged.

● Next are the organised opportunists, who set off of a morning from, say, Plymouth, making for a suitably well-heeled area. They cruise around until they detect

furtive signs that premises are temporarily unoccupied. A garage door is left open, perhaps, or newspapers are lying on the front doorstep. The most personable member then walks boldly to the front door and knocks. If someone answers, he has an excuse ready, such as: "I am an antique dealer living in the area, is there anything you would like to sell", or "I see the drive needs tarmacking, would you like us to do it?" If no one answers the door, he then starts looking through the windows and breaks in. Soon the gang



is roaming the house, using suitcases and pillows to carry the valuables away.

● The final category is the "Raffles" character, as Mr Suter calls him, who operates alone. Mr Spart became a "creeper" working only at night. He was knowledgeable enough to ensure that if his masked torch highlighted a fake piece of Meissen he would put it back, but he was let down by his hallmark - a pair of woolen socks that he pulled over his boots before entering a house. Once outside, Mr Spart would bury the stolen goods until the coast was clear but he had a habit of throwing his socks aside and they were picked up by the police. "When they turned them inside out, they found the mud from his boots, left like fingerprints," Mr Suter says.

S. J. C.

Memorabilia

Any old iron lady?

JUST as the demise of great public figures is often followed by their apotheosis, souvenirs in their name soon become sought-after collectables. The problem with Margaret Thatcher is that her personality has never been of much inspiration to this particular industry. Followers preferred to demonstrate their loyalty in different ways than by buying tea services decorated with Mrs Thatcher's face.

But apart from signed photographs, which retail at about £30, the rare tributes such as the Staffordshire caricature jugs and mugs produced in the mid-Eighties are unfashionable, featuring a meat-cleaver nose. The current favourite is a rubber Spitting Image puppet on sale at Hamleys and motorway service stations for £1.99.

The lack of supplies is good news for anyone who actually did collect souvenirs during Mrs Thatcher's 11 and a half years as prime minister. As her contribution becomes more apparent, they could find they are sitting on lasting national assets.

Whoever paid the paltry £8 for a caricature mug at Bonhams auctioneers in London back in 1988 should perhaps increase his house insurance, as should the buyer of the £40 kitsch candleholder



Market force at Longleat: the Marquess of Bath with part of his collection of Thatcherware

featuring Mrs Thatcher and Arthur Scargill at loggerheads, and he who paid £38 for a bone china mug bearing pictures of David Steel, James Callaghan and Mrs Thatcher, after the 1979 general election.

Ironically, items produced in passionate opposition to Mrs Thatcher's policies, such as miners' strike mugs produced in south Wales in 1984, could become the best investments of all. The mugs, featuring images of young families lingering at the pit head, carried slogans asking for Britain's support. Such mugs might take some finding, but their price is currently low.

The big question is whether Thatcher memorabilia will

take its place alongside that of Churchill, whose commemorative buildings and character mugs far outstrip the market performance of any other 20th century politician, with prices rising to £2,000. In her favour, Mrs Thatcher has the duration of her premiership, her long string of battles, both abroad and against the "enemy within", and the fact that she was the first woman prime minister. Suffragette memorabilia sells at a premium, and Mrs Thatcher memorabilia may enter that category.

Still, Mrs Thatcher has inspired many more commemorative tributes than Edward Heath, whose only tribute, according to Eric Knowles of

Bonhams, was a gorging toucan. Luckiest investor of all is the anonymous person who paid £480 at Christie's South Kensington five years ago for a children's book produced for the Save the Children's Fund. Apart from featuring a cartoon by Babette Cole of the prime minister as a cleaning lady, wearing a Union Jack apron and dusting a classical bust, the book contains a poem by her, summing up her attitude to life.

"It is easy to be a star. But are you a sticker too? It is easy enough to begin a job. It is harder to see it through."

S.J.C.

ANTIQUES AND COLLECTING

FOUR IN ONE PROMOTIONS
0533 712589
ANTIQUES & COLLECTORFAIRS

PETERBOROUGH
Bushfield Sports Centre
Up to 125 stalls 10.30am - 5.00pm.
SUNDAY 25th NOVEMBER

THE MAMMOTH,
Donington Park Exhibition Centre
(J24, M1)
Special one day fair
Trade & Public 8.00am
Up to 500 stalls.
WEDNESDAY 28th NOVEMBER

FAMILY HISTORY

Who were your ancestors?
Where did they come from?

You have heard yourself asking these questions so satisfy your curiosity and let us help discover the answers. We are experts in genealogy, family history and heraldry. At reasonable cost we can compile a report that you will always treasure. For FREE estimates and brochure write to:

ACHIEVEMENTS OF CANTERBURY
KENT ENGLAND CT1 1BA7 Tel/Fax 0227 765617

Mr. Chippendale's

MAKERS & RESTORERS OF FINE FURNITURE SPECIALISING IN DECORATIVE MATCHING PAIRS OF TEA & (Demi-Lune) CARD TABLES

Thames 0843 298582/295689
32A Hawley Street, MARGATE
Open Monday - Saturday 10am-5pm

CLOCK RESTORATION
by expert craftsmen
on our premises
ASPREY plc
165 New Bond St,
London W1Y 6AR
Tel: 071-493 6767

AVRIL NOBLE GALLERY
Antique Maps & Engravings
18th to 19th Century
All parts of the world
Bright & Bold
2 Southampton Row, Strand WC2E 7HA
01-240 1970

RICHARD GREEN

REALISM TO ABSTRACT
British Paintings 1800-1900



Leonard Campbell Taylor, RA, ROI, RP
1874 - 1969
Signed. Oil on canvas: 27 x 24in / 68 x 59cm
Exhibited: London, Royal Academy, 1945, no. 3
Exhibition currently on show
ALL PAINTINGS ARE PRICED UNDER £40,000
Fully illustrated catalogue £12 including postage
4 New Bond Street, London W1Y 9PE
Telephone: 071-493 3939, Fax: 071-495 0636
New York: 518-583 2660

LANBERHURST ANTIQUES

Uppes House, School Hill, Lamberhurst, Kent TN3 9DP
We have a top quality selection of 18th & 19th century furniture for sale at all prices. We also have a large stock of 18th & 19th century paintings for sale at all prices. We are open on days & evenings 9.30am-5pm. Tel: 01843 827282. E-mail: lamberhurst@btinternet.com. Estimates given on request. Insurance valuations on request.

ANTIQUE ENGAGEMENT RINGS
For DISTINCTION, QUALITY & VALUE
See Our Large Collection of Antique Rings at Reasonable Prices
Greens Antiques Gallery
117 Kensington Church Street
London W8
Monday-Saturday 9.30am-5pm - Telephone: 071 229 9618
We also wish to purchase Good Quality Jewellery at the Highest Price

AUDREY JOHNSON
Signed Limited Edition
850 Prints
BUTTERCUPS 15" x 11" £15
SNOWDROPS 9" x 7" £12
Tel: 0222 492779
VISA

Christmas Exhibition
ALBERTUS SEBA, 1734-65
from his
"Cabinet of Curiosity"
also wide variety of
Fine & Rare Antique Prints
£20 - £500
The Seba Gallery
14 Mark Lane, London EC3R 7PL
Tel: 071 491 2288
Fax: 071 491 9672

GLOUCESTERSHIRE'S PREMIERE MONTHLY ANTIQUES FAIR
CHELTENHAM RACE COURSE SUNDAY
25th NOVEMBER 10.00am-5.00pm
Tel: 01242 624854

URGENTLY WANTED OLD FISHING TACKLE
Rods, Harry Brown etc, rods, gills & related fish in costume
High prices paid
Tel: 0580 63864 or write: 118 High Street, Tenbury, Kent

Review

● **Amazing Mayan:** Two limestone zoomorphs, representing Mayan deities and once used as sacred weights for codices, broke the record of £214,500 for PreColumbian art when they fetched £253,000 (£128,361) at Sotheby's in New York, paid by an American dealer.

Price leap: An early 17th century Japanese writing box, attributed to Hon'ami Kōetsu, was sold by Guiseppe Iskrenski, the London dealer, to a European collector for £350,000. The price compares with the recent auction record of £116,000 for a lacquer box.

Highest bid: The so-called *Nicola Stradivarius* violin was unsold after failing to attract bids of more than £20,000 at Sotheby's auction, despite an ambitious estimate of up to £1 million. **Vincent instrument:** The *Mendelssohn Stradivarius* violin

which, at £902,000, broke the world record for a musical instrument at Christie's, despite an estimate of £600,000.

Preview

Monday: At 10.30am and 2pm Christie's South Kensington offers clocks, watches and barometers. At 11am, in Bedford, Spencer's begins its main autumn sale of furniture, pictures, silver, porcelain and works of art, ranging in size from a gig or a four-poster bed to earrings. In Sussex, Sotheby's is offering a main autumn sale of furniture, pictures, silver, porcelain and works of art, ranging in size from a gig or a four-poster bed to earrings.

Tuesday: Sales of medals at Christie's, 10am and 2.30pm, and icons at 10.30am. Phillips has 19th century European paintings, notably a newly discovered student work by the Romanticist C D Friedrich (up to £150,000). In Glasgow, Christie's offers Wemyss ware at 11am, and in Somerset Bonhams has a part-contents

sale at Halswell House, Gouthurst, at noon.

Tuesday and Wednesday: Daily sessions at 10.30am and 2pm of Furniture, European and Oriental ceramics and works of art at Sotheby's Sussex.

Wednesday: In Torquay Beane's has Oriental and European ceramics and glass at 10am. An appealing Whickon-type group of ladies in a bower could make £25,000. In London, Christie's has silver and objects of vertu at 10.30am, including some special coconuts at up to £6,000 each. They are carved and splendidly mounted in silver, dating from about 1800. The manuscript sale at 1.00pm and 2.30pm has a magnificent *Book of Hours* circa 1530 (up to £300,000).

Thursday: More books and manuscripts, with the Duke of Northumberland's great *Beastie*, circa 1255, at Phillips, 10.1 New Bond Street (up to £125,000). At Sotheby's (up to £1.2m). At King Street, Christie's has in

best Continental furniture of the season, while at South Kensington it has a varied day: at 10.30am Old Master paintings and, at 2pm, scientific instruments plus nine Ministry of Defence Halcyon 27 cruising yachts.

Friday: In Penzance, at 10.30am, W H Lane offers pictures and prints and in London there is Continental furniture at Sotheby's, 11am and 2.30pm.

● **Spencer's, 20 The Square, Bedford, North (0777-708633):** Christie's, King Street, St James's (071-839 9060). Christie's, South Kensington, 85 Old Brompton Road, SW7 (071-581 7671). Christie's, Scotland, 164/166 Bath Street, Glasgow G2 (041-332 8134). Sotheby's, 35 New Bond Street (071-493-8080). Sotheby's, St James's, 101 New Bond Street (071-629 6602). Beane's, Rainbow Avenue Road, Torquay (0803-296277).

BBC1

Shelley Long And Tom Hanks (8.15pm)

Twitter for cattle: Frankie Howard (10.10pm)

BBC 2:

classical Rome, and equally innocent paintings, to which Swale is an enthusiastic but never gushing guide

9.00 LA Live: Polish drama in a loggias with the Los Angeles Live Art Co.

10.00 Four Nations: Four nations of film

10.15 A series of five programmes examining aspects of new British animation with interviews and extracts. They are introduced by one of the creators of *Spiriting Away*, Roger Linn. Tonight's edition is concerned with the new generation of women filmmakers. Guests: Joanna Quinn, Judith Kennedy, Emma Calvey and including the premiere of *Calcutta Guard's* *Sins Anonymous: The Witches Typewriter*

10.30 What about Me: Dawn French is the guest

10.30 Film: Tidy Endings (1985)

CHOICE: Continuing its build-up to World Aids Day on December 1, Channel 4 presents a short play by Henry Ffrench of *Love's Labour's Lost* in which two people close to an AIDS victim pour out their emotions. One, played by Ffrench himself, is the dead man's lover, the other (Brookland Channing) has former love. As they meet to sort out the effects of the dead Colin, both try to claim him as their own and their mouths lead to a contest. In contrast to the one-handed, gravel-voiced Ffrench has the more showy part, first venting the lover's bitterness and aggression then softening as he confesses Colin's final moments. Obligated for the most part to act as the foil, Channing is no less effective. Offered as a piece for understanding, *Tidy Endings* is sensibly balanced a bit of a weeper.

The American (1980) is a comedy adapted by Ffrench from his play and directed by Brian's Gavin Miller

11.30 The Week with Jonathan Ross. A completion of the week's chat shows

12.05am Snoots: More comic excitement with the adventure-come-couple, starring Tim Reid and Daphne Maxwell Reid

1.00 The Word includes an interview with

SATELLITE

[illegible]

8.45 Conversation Piece
 MacGregor talks to the writer
 Ray (T)

9.10 *Music in Mind* (M)
 Kay presents a selection of all-time
 children's favourites (S)

9.50 Ten to Ten ten to the Rev
 (M) (S) 9.59 Weather (S)

10.00 News

10.15 Open Mind: Discussion
 chaired by Edward Mortimer

10.45 *The Morris South Country It:*
The End of the Road, Peter
Tinnwood's five-part comic
adventure (final part) (S)

11.00 Richard Baker Company
 Novels with Ronald Kemp and
 John Andrews of the
 Finchley Children's Music
 Group (S) (T)

11.30 *The Comedy Show:* The second
 of four comedy sketches on a
 spoofy theme, written by
 Stuart Silver and Malcolm
 Williamson with Morwenna
 Banks, Sylvester McCoy and
 Greg McGovern

12.00 12.30am News, Int. 12.30
 Weather 12.33 Shipping
 Forecast

هكذا من الأصل

BBC 1

8.45 Through the Garden Gate. Nurseryman Dennis Corbett visits Headland at the mouth of the River Fowey (r) 9.15 Inigo. The life and spiritual exercises of St Ignatius.

9.30 This is the Day. A simple religious service from a viewer's home in Plymouth.

10.00 A Vous la France. French for beginners (r). (r) 10.25 See You Sunday 10.25 Español Viva. For beginners in Spanish (r).

10.50 You and 92. How will the new European Single Market affect you and your environment? (r) 11.25 A Way with Numbers. Entertaining methods to help adults improve their maths.

11.50 Help Your Child with Reading (r) 12.05 See Hear! Magazine for the hearing impaired.

12.30 Country File. John Craven discovers that the great storm of 1987, although responsible for the felling of 15 million trees, was not a complete disaster. The Royal Society for Nature Conservation is using the episode to highlight public awareness of ancient woodlands, and Craven reports on how individuals and organisations are promoting trees. Wales: Farming in Wales 12.55

1.00 News with Moira Stuart followed by On the Record. An extended edition in which David Dimbleby interviews all three contenders for the Conservative party leadership on their plans for the country if they become prime ministers.

2.30 EastEnders (r). (Coastal)

3.30 Snooker. David Vine introduces coverage of the early frames in the Storrness UK championship.

4.50 The Clothes Show with the latest fashions and tie-ins in Cornish pewee, and the new image created for the BBC Singers.

BBC 2

7.30 King Rollo (r) 7.35 Playdays (r) 7.55 Is That a Fact? The legend of the world's greatest fisherman, the legendary fisherman, the legendary fisherman.

8.30 Movie. Multi-faith drama for children 8.45 Lullaby.

9.10 Corners (r) 9.30 Dungeons and Dragons. Cartoon 9.55 Blue Peter.

10.40 Maki Mariani and Her Merry Men. Alternative version of the Robin Hood story (r) 11.10 Boopoo (r) 11.50 The O-Zone.

12.00 Regional parliamentary news. Wales: See Hear!

12.30 Country File. In MacWhirter looks at the work of MPs in committees as they question and observe government activities. (Coastal)

1.00 Arabic. Sand, Sea and Sky. The last film in the series follows a Bedouin family on its remarkable winter migration across the deserts of southern Arabia. (Coastal)

1.50 Cricket. First Test. Highlights of the third day's play in the first Test between England and Australia in Brisbane introduced by Richie Benaud.

2.00 Troubadour. Sir John Harvey-Jones strides through the doors of the Shakespeare Theatre to apply his business acumen towards seeing the troupe of the HNS (r).

3.00 Film: Bugsy Malone (1976). Alan Parker's highly original and very effective musical gangster spoof with a cast composed entirely of children. Look out for the 12-year-old Jodie Foster, on her way to even better things. Parker is featured in The South Bank Show on ITV at 10.50pm. (Coastal)

4.30 Pakistan. The General's Democracy? A profile of Pakistan's new prime minister, Nawaz Sharif.

5.00 Rugby Special. Highlights of the Pilkington Cup final match between the holders, Bath, and Leicester. Wales: Pontypridd v Neath; Northern Ireland: Instonants v Cork Constitution and Malone v St Mary's.

6.00 Jules Box Jury. Introduced by Jojo 'Holland. Bob Geldof, Monica Love, Duff Springfield and Rowland Rivron give their verdicts on the week's pop releases.

6.35 The Money Programme. In the Japanese car industry Nissan leads the way in production line technology and marketing. Gordon Brewer leads out now.

7.15 The Trials of Life: Fighting. More dazzling footage of animals negotiating their way through life. Sir David Attenborough, who is fast turning into a parody of himself, demonstrates how fighting becomes necessary in the search for food, for a mate, for a home, or to protect family and territory (r). (Coastal)

8.05 Not Only... But Also... (b/w). Vintage Series comedy from Peter Cook and Dudley Moore. Dad relates the tedious tale of having to repeat Rachel Welch, plus the amazing story of Emma Bargo, a portrait painter rehearsing for television. With guest Sheila Steafel (r). (Coastal)

8.35 Nippon: Shock Effect. Solid documentary series about the economic triumph of post-war Japan. Following

5.15 Schofield's Europa. Philip Schofield visits Finland, where he holds an interview in a sauna, meets the world's worst rock band, trains for a Kisekion and meets Finland's leading talk show host. (Coastal)

5.45 The Chronicles of Narnia: The Silver Chair. Dramatisation of the classic children's story by C.S. Lewis. Tom Baker joins the cast as the schoolteacher Mr. and Mrs. Eustace continue their trip through the land of fantasy. (Coastal)

6.15 Sun Chances. Carol Vorderman helps adults with their maths. This week she meets a former convict, Joe Buchanan, who explains how studying maths while in prison changed his life. (Coastal)

6.25 News with Moira Stuart. Weather.

6.40 Songs of Praise from Glasgow's Art Gallery and Museum. (Coastal)

7.15 You Rang M'Lord? Upstairs-downstairs comedy from the team responsible for *Hi-De-Hi* (Coastal)

8.05 Howards' Way. The musical soap finally sells off into the sunset after six audience-pulling years. But its creator, Gerald Glaister, is busy with a new drama, *Trainer*, for screening next autumn. (Coastal)

9.00 House of Cards. Episode two of Michael Dobbs's brilliant political satire, adapted by Andrew Davies. Ian Richardson gives one of his best television performances as the wily, cunning and ruthless chief whip, Francis Urquhart, plotting to unseat the prime minister. It is a party conference time and a scandal is about to break. (Coastal)

10.00 News with Moira Stuart. Weather.

10.15 Everyman: Land of Hope and Glory.

CHOICE: In a film given resonance by Mark Elder's reluctance to conduct patriotic tunes at the Proms with a possibility of a Gulf war in the offing, five people who were at the last night are invited to

Interpret Elder's stirring flag-waver. The quiet form a cross-section of class, race and ideology, although none appears to agree with Elder. It seems that Elder's music and Arthur C. Benson's words are what you want to make of them. A true-blue lady of the house comes out to be as much of a traditionalist as a royal-worshipping Albert Hall doorman in the Old Kent Road. Lesley Garrett, who sang "Rule, Britannia!" at the last night, somehow manages to reconcile Elder and Benson with sympathy for the former's style in her native Yorkshire. In the only dissenting note, the Rev John Sentamu, a black priest, says that Britain's claim to be mother of the free must be backed by an acceptance of cultural diversity.

10.55 The Days and Nights of Molly Dodd. American sitcom about an accident-prone real estate woman, starring Blair Brown.

11.20 Snooker. The closing stages of two first-round matches in the UK championships from the Guild Hall, Preston.

12.20am Clean Slate. Education magazine introduced by Jackie Spackley (r) 1.30 Weather.

ITV LONDON

6.00 TV-am including, at 6.00, News and weather followed by Frost on Sunday. Reviewing the newspapers are Donald Trefford and Frances Edmonds.

9.25 The Disney Club with the Reggae Philharmonic orchestra and choir.

10.45 Link. The story of Ken and Chris Cheeky who were treated when Chris was treated for paralysis at Stoke Mandeville hospital and later, against the odds for a wheelchair-bound couple, had a baby.

11.00 Morning Glasgow from St Andrew's Cathedral, Glasgow.

12.00 The Human Factor. A look at the work of controversial film director Derek Jarman.

12.30 LWT News Weekend.

1.00 News with Nicholas Owen. Weather.

1.10 Walden Special: The Next Prime Minister. Brian Walden interviews the three contenders for the Conservative party leadership.

2.55 The Match. Glen Webster introduces the coverage of the first division game at Old Trafford between Manchester United and Chelsea. Alan Parry and Ian St John provide the commentary.

5.05 Sunday Sunday. Gloria Hunniford's guests include actor Steve Gutteridge, singer Dusty Springfield and the Tordella, lead singer of the group Dread Zeppelin. The critics are alternative comic Vic Reeves and presenter Angela Ripston.

6.00 The River Thames. The fifth programme in the series on London's waterways.

6.30 News with Nicholas Owen. Weather.

6.35 LWT News and weather.

6.40 Appeal by Bill Owen on behalf of the Child Poverty Action Group.

6.45 Highway. Sir Henry Cavill visits Dungannon, Co Tyrone.

7.15 The Ruth Rendell Mysteries: No Crying He Makes. In this single-episode mystery, the painstaking Inspector

Wendford (George Baker) is called in just before Christmas to investigate a mother's discovery that her child has been exchanged for another baby. (Coastal)

8.45 News with Nicholas Owen. Weather.

CHANNEL 4

8.00 Transworld Sport (r).

7.00 Per World. An exploration of the relationships between people and their pets 7.30 Once upon a Time...Life (r).

8.00 Dennis. Cartoon 8.30 Bobobobs.

8.25 Orientations. Investigates Hong Kong's disabled.

10.00 A Week in Politics: Second Reading. A review of the events leading to Mrs Thatcher's resignation.

10.45 Dennis. Cartoon 11.00 Owl TV. Nature series (r). (Teletext)

11.30 Grim Tales. Rik Mayall reads *Hansel and Gretel* by the Brothers Grimm (r).

11.45 The Astrology Show 12.00 The Watsons 1.00 Voyage to the Bottom of the Sea (b/w).

2.00 Film: *Rolling to the Core* (1985). b/w. Anton Rodgers, Charlotte Rampling (in her first film) and Eric Sykes star in a story of crooks who emerge from a spell behind bars to set up a payroll robbery. Directed by Roy Boulton.

3.45 Four Mothers UK: *Re - The Path of the Sun God*. Continuing Lesley Keen's animated avocation of ancient Egyptian beliefs 4.10 Fatty's friends. Candy Guard's inclusive animation examines women's obsession with weight watching. Followed by *Body Beautiful*. Joanna Quirke's animation tells the tale of a factory worker who takes on the big-headed foreman 4.30 Big World Animators. Profiles of animators Karen Watson and Maybelle Peters.

shows every sign of offering the same solidly carpentered middle-brow entertainment as other Dolderfeld stories (notably *To Serve Them All My Days*) which have translated to the small screen (Orion).

10.20 Spitting Image. More cruel but true to life memory.

10.50 The South Bank Show.

CHOICE: Alan Parker's films may be more admired in the United States than they are here but there is no denying the achievement of a man who has become one of the most successful British directors in Hollywood, is still only 46 and still sounds like a London barrow boy. Asked by Melvyn Bragg how he manages to survive the Hollywood jungle, Parker replies: "I shout louder than they do and don't put up with any nonsense." A less than nostalgic tale of Parker's native barington ("God, it's terrible") proceeds a film by him in account of his career, prompted by video clips and Bragg's sympathetic questions. The approach tends to get bogged down in the details of particular scenes and it is left to the *Time Out* film critic Geoff Andrew to present a wider and more objective view. Parker sees himself as neither an intellectual nor a money-maker in the Spielberg mould but a traditional story-teller who uses strong drama to convey his message. Parker's *Time Out* film critic Geoff Andrew to present a wider and more objective view. Parker sees himself as neither an intellectual nor a money-maker in the Spielberg mould but a traditional story-teller who uses strong drama to convey his message.

11.50 Comedy. The Ninth Art. The series on the history of comedy focuses on those read by the Japanese.

12.25 Golf: PGA Tour 90. Highlights of the 1990 PGA Tour.

1.40 The Time Tunnel. When Tony and Doug land in New Mexico during the 1880s, they have a close shave with Billy the Kid (r).

2.40 Indy Car World.

3.40 Adventure. Heart-racing footage of man and the natural elements.

4.00 The Silk Road. Documentary series on the ancient Asian trade route (r).

5.00 ITN Morning News. Ends at 6.00.

4.45 Answering Back. Mary Golding talks to the president of the Bundesbank, Otto Poil.

5.30 News summary and weather followed by Road to America. Episode nine.

6.30 The Cosby Show.

7.00 Equinox: Sex, Lies and Toupées.

CHOICE: In another entertaining foray into the lesser-by-ways of science, Equinox investigates badness. It is an edition that few driven men to suicide but tonight's film, narrated in a suitably jocular style by Willie Rushton, is not intended to put at the heart strings. The tone is set by a visit to the annual convention of the Bled Headed Men of America, described by one of them as a light-hearted Scientific explanation of badness make duffer viewing than an American television weatherman, who amuses his audience by sometimes wearing a

couple and sometimes going on bald. Those of nervous disposition may want to avert their eyes from a grisly close-up of hair being transplanted and a demonstration of how chicken droppings may be employed as a cure for baldness. (Teletext)

8.00 American Football. This week's featured game is the New York Giants at the Philadelphia Eagles.

9.30 Four Mothers UK: The Status of the Art 2. A documentary profile of animator David Anderson.

10.00 Film: *Too Late Blues* (1981, b/w). An absorbing musical drama in which Bobby Darin plays a self-destructive jazz musician. With Steve Stevens and Cliff Gorman. Directed by John Cassavetes.

11.55 Four Mothers UK: The Thin Line. A combination of artwork backgrounds, live action, animation and models.

12.25am Danny's Little Bit of Dresden China. Karen Watson's highly-acclaimed animation revealing the horror of child abuse. Followed by *Anyways*. A Royal College of Art student reveals his penetrating observations. Followed by *Madame Potatoes*. A bizarre animation from Emma Calder.

12.45 Movie Hill Films: *Noblesse Oblige*. This humorous plausibly animation examines an explorer from the turn of the century. Followed by *Members Only*. A sinister animation which combines prostitution, gambling, cannibalism and murder.

1.05 Impro-Vision 1. A brief look at the work of video artist Sir John Johnson.

1.10 Channel Four Racing International: The Japan Cup introduced by Brough Scott from Tokyo. Ends at 1.40.

TV VARIATIONS

ANGLIA

As London except: 12.00pm-1.00pm *Farming World* 2.00pm-2.30pm *News* 2.30pm-3.00pm *World of Gull* 3.00pm-3.30pm *News* 3.30pm-4.00pm *World of Gull* 4.00pm-4.30pm *News* 4.30pm-5.00pm *World of Gull* 5.00pm-5.30pm *News* 5.30pm-6.00pm *World of Gull* 6.00pm-6.30pm *News* 6.30pm-7.00pm *World of Gull* 7.00pm-7.30pm *News* 7.30pm-8.00pm *World of Gull* 8.00pm-8.30pm *News* 8.30pm-9.00pm *World of Gull* 9.00pm-9.30pm *News* 9.30pm-10.00pm *World of Gull* 10.00pm-10.30pm *News* 10.30pm-11.00pm *World of Gull* 11.00pm-11.30pm *News* 11.30pm-12.00pm *World of Gull* 12.00pm-12.30pm *News* 12.30pm-1.00pm *World of Gull* 1.00pm-1.30pm *News* 1.30pm-2.00pm *World of Gull* 2.00pm-2.30pm *News* 2.30pm-3.00pm *World of Gull* 3.00pm-3.30pm *News* 3.30pm-4.00pm *World of Gull* 4.00pm-4.30pm *News* 4.30pm-5.00pm *World of Gull* 5.00pm-5.30pm *News* 5.30pm-6.00pm *World of Gull* 6.00pm-6.30pm *News* 6.30pm-7.00pm *World of Gull* 7.00pm-7.30pm *News* 7.30pm-8.00pm *World of Gull* 8.00pm-8.30pm *News* 8.30pm-9.00pm *World of Gull* 9.00pm-9.30pm *News* 9.30pm-10.00pm *World of Gull* 10.00pm-10.30pm *News* 10.30pm-11.00pm *World of Gull* 11.00pm-11.30pm *News* 11.30pm-12.00pm *World of Gull* 12.00pm-12.30pm *News* 12.30pm-1.00pm *World of Gull* 1.00pm-1.30pm *News* 1.30pm-2.00pm *World of Gull* 2.00pm-2.30pm *News* 2.30pm-3.00pm *World of Gull* 3.00pm-3.30pm *News* 3.30pm-4.00pm *World of Gull* 4.00pm-4.30pm *News* 4.30pm-5.00pm *World of Gull* 5.00pm-5.30pm *News* 5.30pm-6.00pm *World of Gull* 6.00pm-6.30pm *News* 6.30pm-7.00pm *World of Gull* 7.00pm-7.30pm *News* 7.30pm-8.00pm *World of Gull* 8.00pm-8.30pm *News* 8.30pm-9.00pm *World of Gull* 9.00pm-9.30pm *News* 9.30pm-10.00pm *World of Gull* 10.00pm-10.30pm *News* 10.30pm-11.00pm *World of Gull* 11.00pm-11.30pm *News* 11.30pm-12.00pm *World of Gull* 12.00pm-12.30pm *News* 12.30pm-1.00pm *World of Gull* 1.00pm-1.30pm *News* 1.30pm-2.00pm *World of Gull* 2.00pm-2.30pm *News* 2.30pm-3.00pm *World of Gull* 3.00pm-3.30pm *News* 3.30pm-4.00pm *World of Gull* 4.00pm-4.30pm *News* 4.30pm-5.00pm *World of Gull* 5.00pm-5.30pm *News* 5.30pm-6.00pm *World of Gull* 6.00pm-6.30pm *News* 6.30pm-7.00pm *World of Gull* 7.00pm-7.30pm *News* 7.30pm-8.00pm *World of Gull* 8.00pm-8.30pm *News* 8.30pm-9.00pm *World of Gull* 9.00pm-9.30pm *News* 9.30pm-10.00pm *World of Gull* 10.00pm-10.30pm *News* 10.30pm-11.00pm *World of Gull* 11.00pm-11.30pm *News* 11.30pm-12.00pm *World of Gull* 12.00pm-12.30pm *News* 12.30pm-1.00pm *World of Gull* 1.00pm-1.30pm *News* 1.30pm-2.00pm *World of Gull* 2.00pm-2.30pm *News* 2.30pm-3.00pm *World of Gull* 3.00pm-3.30pm *News* 3.30pm-4.00pm *World of Gull* 4.00pm-4.30pm *News* 4.30pm-5.00pm *World of Gull* 5.00pm-5.30pm *News* 5.30pm-6.00pm *World of Gull* 6.00pm-6.30pm *News* 6.30pm-7.00pm *World of Gull* 7.00pm-7.30pm *News* 7.30pm-8.00pm *World of Gull* 8.00pm-8.30pm *News* 8.30pm-9.00pm *World of Gull* 9.00pm-9.30pm *News* 9.30pm-10.00pm *World of Gull* 10.00pm-10.30pm *News* 10.30pm-11.00pm *World of Gull* 11.00pm-11.30pm *News* 11.30pm-12.00pm *World of Gull* 12.00pm-12.30pm *News* 12.30pm-1.00pm *World of Gull* 1.00pm-1.30pm *News* 1.30pm-2.00pm *World of Gull* 2.00pm-2.30pm *News* 2.30pm-3.00pm *World of Gull* 3.00pm-3.30pm *News* 3.30pm-4.00pm *World of Gull* 4.00pm-4.30pm *News* 4.30pm-5.00pm *World of Gull* 5.00pm-5.30pm *News* 5.30pm-6.00pm *World of Gull* 6.00pm-6.30pm *News* 6.30pm-7.00pm *World of Gull* 7.00pm-7.30pm *News* 7.30pm-8.00pm *World of Gull* 8.00pm-8.30pm *News* 8.30pm-9.00pm *World of Gull* 9.00pm-9.30pm *News* 9.30pm-10.00pm *World of Gull* 10.00pm-10.30pm *News* 10.30pm-11.00pm *World of Gull* 11.00pm-11.30pm *News* 11.30pm-12.00pm *World of Gull* 12.00pm-12.30pm *News* 12.30pm-1.00pm *World of Gull* 1.00pm-1.30pm *News* 1.30pm-2.00pm *World of Gull* 2.00pm-2.30pm *News* 2.30pm-3.00pm *World of Gull* 3.00pm-3.30pm *News* 3.30pm-4.00pm *World of Gull* 4.00pm-4.30pm *News* 4.30pm-5.00pm *World of Gull* 5.00pm-5.30pm *News* 5.30pm-6.00pm *World of Gull* 6.00pm-6.30pm *News* 6.30pm-7.00pm *World of Gull* 7.00pm-7.30pm *News* 7.30pm-8.00pm *World of Gull* 8.00pm-8.30pm *News* 8.30pm-9.00pm *World of Gull* 9.00pm-9.30pm *News* 9.30pm-10.00pm *World of Gull* 10.00pm-10.30pm *News* 10.30pm-11.00pm *World of Gull* 11.00pm-11.30pm *News* 11.30pm-12.00pm *World of Gull* 12.00pm-12.30pm *News* 12.30pm-1.00pm *World of Gull* 1.00pm-1.30pm *News* 1.30pm-2.00pm *World of Gull* 2.00pm-2.30pm *News* 2.30pm-3.00pm *World of Gull* 3.00pm-3.30pm *News* 3.30pm-4.00pm *World of Gull* 4.00pm-4.30pm *News* 4.30pm-5.00pm *World of Gull* 5.00pm-5.30pm *News* 5.30pm-6.00pm *World of Gull* 6.00pm-6.30pm *News* 6.30pm-7.00pm *World of Gull* 7.00pm-7.30pm *News* 7.30pm-8.00pm *World of Gull* 8.00pm-8.30pm *News* 8.30pm-9.00pm *World of Gull* 9.00pm-9.30pm *News* 9.30pm-10.00pm *World of Gull* 10.00pm-10.30pm *News* 10.30pm-11.00pm *World of Gull* 11.00pm-11.30pm *News* 11.30pm-12.00pm *World of Gull* 12.00pm-12.30pm *News* 12.30pm-1.00pm *World of Gull* 1.00pm-1.30pm *News* 1.30pm-2.00pm *World of Gull* 2.00pm-2.30pm *News* 2.30pm-3.00pm *World of Gull* 3.00pm-3.30pm *News* 3.30pm-4.00pm *World of Gull* 4.00pm-4.30pm *News* 4.30pm-5.00pm *World of Gull* 5.00pm-5.30pm *News* 5.30pm-6.00pm *World of Gull* 6.00pm-6.30pm *News* 6.30pm-7.00pm *World of Gull* 7.00pm-7.30pm *News* 7.30pm-8.00pm *World of Gull* 8.00pm-8.30pm *News* 8.30pm-9.00pm *World of Gull* 9.00pm-9.30pm *News* 9.30pm-10.00pm *World of Gull* 10.00pm-10.30pm *News* 10.30pm-11.00pm *World of Gull* 11.00pm-11.30pm *News* 11.30pm-12.00pm *World of Gull* 12.00pm-12.30pm *News* 12.30pm-1.00pm *World of Gull* 1.00pm-1.30pm *News* 1.30pm-2.00pm *World of Gull* 2.00pm-2.30pm *News* 2.30pm-3.00pm *World of Gull* 3.00pm-3.30pm *News* 3.30pm-4.00pm *World of Gull* 4.00pm-4.30pm *News* 4.30pm-5.00pm *World of Gull* 5.00pm-5.30pm *News* 5.30pm-6.00pm *World of Gull* 6.00pm-6.30pm *News* 6.30pm-7.00pm *World of Gull* 7.00pm-7.30pm *News* 7.30pm-8.00pm *World of Gull* 8.00pm-8.30pm *News* 8.30pm-9.00pm *World of Gull* 9.00pm-9.30pm *News* 9.30pm-10.00pm *World of Gull* 10.00pm-10.30pm *News* 10.30pm-11.00pm *World of Gull* 11.00pm-11.30pm *News* 11.30pm-12.00pm *World of Gull* 12.00pm-12.30pm *News* 12.30pm-1.00pm *World of Gull* 1.00pm-1.30pm *News* 1.30pm-2.00pm *World of Gull* 2.00pm-2.30pm *News* 2.30pm-3.00pm *World of Gull* 3.00pm-3.30pm *News* 3.30pm-4.00pm *World of Gull* 4.00pm-4.30pm *News* 4.30pm-5.00pm *World of Gull* 5.00pm-5.30pm *News* 5.30pm-6.00pm *World of Gull* 6.00pm-6.30pm *News* 6.30pm-7.00pm *World of Gull* 7.00pm-7.30pm *News* 7.30pm-8.00pm *World of Gull* 8.00pm-8.30pm *News* 8.30pm-9.00pm *World of Gull* 9.00pm-9.30pm *News* 9.30pm-10.00pm *World of Gull* 10.00pm-10.30pm *News* 10.30pm-11.00pm *World of Gull* 11.00pm-11.30pm *News* 11.30pm-12.00pm *World of Gull* 12.00pm-12.30pm *News* 12.30pm-1.00pm *World of Gull* 1.00pm-1.30pm *News* 1.30pm-2.00pm *World of Gull* 2.00pm-2.30pm *News* 2.30pm-3.00pm *World of Gull* 3.00pm-3.30pm *News* 3.30pm-4.00pm *World of Gull* 4.00pm-4.30pm *News* 4.30pm-5.00pm *World of Gull* 5.00pm-5.30pm *News* 5.30pm-6.00pm *World of Gull* 6.00pm-6.30pm *News* 6.30pm-7.00pm *World of Gull* 7.00pm-7.30pm *News* 7.30pm-8.00pm *World of Gull* 8.00pm-8.30pm *News* 8.30pm-9.00pm *World of Gull* 9.00pm-9.30pm *News* 9.30pm-10.00pm *World of Gull* 10.00pm-10.30pm *News* 10.30pm-11.00pm *World of Gull* 11.00pm-11.30pm *News* 11.30pm-12.00pm *World of Gull* 12.00pm-12.30pm *News* 12.30pm-1.00pm *World of Gull* 1.00pm-1.30pm *News* 1.30pm-2.00pm *World of Gull* 2.00pm-2.30pm *News* 2.30pm-3.00pm *World of Gull* 3.00pm-3.30pm *News* 3.30pm-4.00pm *World of Gull* 4.00pm-4.30pm *News* 4.30pm-5.00pm *World of Gull* 5.00pm-5.30pm *News* 5.30pm-6.00pm *World of Gull* 6.00pm-6.30pm *News* 6.30pm-7.00pm *World of Gull* 7.00pm-7.30pm *News* 7.30pm-8.00pm *World of Gull* 8.00pm-8.30pm *News* 8.30pm-9.00pm *World of Gull* 9.00pm-9.30pm *News* 9.30pm-10.00pm *World of Gull* 10.00pm-10.30pm *News* 10.30pm-11.00pm *World of Gull* 11.00pm-11.30pm *News* 11.30pm-12.00pm *World of Gull* 12.00pm-12.30pm *News* 12.30pm-1.00pm *World of Gull* 1.00pm-1.30pm *News* 1.30pm-2.00pm *World of Gull* 2.00pm-2.30pm *News* 2.30pm-3.00pm *World of Gull* 3.00pm-3.30pm *News* 3.30pm-4.00pm *World of Gull* 4.00pm-4.30pm *News* 4.30pm-5.00pm *World of Gull* 5.00pm-5.30pm *News* 5.30pm-6.00pm *World of Gull* 6.00pm-6.30pm *News* 6.30pm-7.00pm *World of Gull* 7.00pm-7.30pm *News* 7.30pm-8.00pm *World of Gull* 8.00pm-8.30pm *News* 8.30pm-9.00pm *World of Gull* 9.00pm-9.30pm *News* 9.30pm-10.00pm *World of Gull* 10.00pm-10.30pm *News* 10.30pm-11.00pm *World of Gull* 11.00pm-11.30pm *News* 11.30pm-12.00pm *World of Gull* 12.00pm-12.30pm *News* 12.30pm-1.00pm *World of Gull* 1.00pm-1.30pm *News* 1.30pm-2.00pm *World of Gull* 2.00pm-2.30pm *News* 2.30pm-3.00pm *World of Gull* 3.00pm-3.30pm *News* 3.30pm-4.00pm *World of Gull* 4.00pm-4.30pm *News* 4.30pm-5.00pm *World of Gull* 5.00pm-5.30pm *News* 5.30pm-6.00pm *World of Gull* 6.00pm-6.30pm *News* 6.30pm-7.00pm *World of Gull* 7.00pm-7.30pm *News* 7.30pm-8.00pm *World of Gull* 8.00pm-8.30pm *News* 8.30pm-9.00pm *World of Gull* 9.00pm-9.30pm *News* 9.30pm-10.00pm *World of Gull* 10.00pm-10.30pm *News* 10.30pm-11.00pm *World of Gull* 11.00pm-11.30pm *News* 11.30pm-12.00pm *World of Gull* 12.00pm-12.30pm *News* 12.30pm-1.00pm *World of Gull* 1.00pm-1.30pm *News* 1.30pm-2.00pm *World of Gull* 2.00pm-2.30pm *News* 2.30pm-3.00pm *World of Gull* 3.00pm-3.30pm *News* 3.30pm-4.00pm *World of Gull* 4.00pm-4.30pm *News* 4.30pm-5.00pm *World of Gull* 5.00pm-5.30pm *News* 5.30pm-6.00pm *World of Gull* 6.00pm-6.30pm *News* 6.30pm-7.00pm *World of Gull* 7.00pm-7.30pm *News* 7.30pm-8.00pm *World of Gull* 8.00pm-8.30pm *News* 8.30pm-9.00pm *World of Gull* 9.00pm-9.30pm *News* 9.30pm-10.0

Navy enquiry ordered after submarine sinks trawler

By KERRY GILL

THE government yesterday admitted that a Royal Navy submarine had sunk a Scottish fishing boat in the Firth of Clyde, and ordered immediate enquiries into the accident.

Archie Hamilton, the defence minister, who issued an emergency statement on the accident to the House of Commons that wreckage found off Arran was that of the Canardale fishing boat. She sank within seconds after her fishing gear was caught by the nuclear-powered submarine HMS Trenchant early on Thursday, in what Mr Hamilton described as a freak accident.

George Foulkes, Labour MP for Carrick, Cumnock and Doon Valley, later attacked as "ignorant and complacent" Mr Hamilton's description of the sinking. He said Labour would step up the cam-

paign for beepers to be fitted to fishing boats to warn submarines. Mr Foulkes added: "One of the crucial questions is why there was a delay between the incident and the start of a rescue operation. Was this the result of the navy trying to pretend that a submarine was not involved?"

Ray Michie, Liberal Democrat MP for Argyll and Bute, and Brian Wilson, Labour MP for Cunninghame North, demanded that submarine exercises in the area be stopped.

Mr Hamilton said: "The crew of Trenchant and the entire submarine community are, I know, shocked and deeply saddened." He said that enquiries had been ordered by the transport department and the Royal Navy. The navy will investigate the accident and whether there was a delay in raising the coastguard. The coastguard said the first signal came from Faslane at 4.10am, about two hours after the incident.

Underwater cameras identified the wreckage of the Canardale about 120 metres down on the seabed. Patrick Stewart, secretary of the Clyde Fishermen's Association, said: "The reaction by fishermen to this tragedy is one of deep shock tinged by anger that this should have happened." All 17 fishing boats based at Canardale joined the search for the bodies.

Mr Hamilton said the Trenchant, presently based at Faslane on the Gare Loch, had surfaced as soon as it was apparent it might have snagged fishing gear.

He said submarines had operated in the area for more than 60 years with "an excellent safety record".

Crews were always vigilant for fishing vessels. "I believe that our record and our safety procedures are excellent, but we will look carefully at the results of both enquiries to see what lessons can be learned," said Mr Hamilton.

The crew were named as James Russell, aged 33, the skipper, William Martindale, aged 24, and Douglas Campbell, aged 20, all of Canardale; Kintyre, and Stuart Campbell, aged 33, of Campbelltown, Kintyre.

Hidden messages, page 8

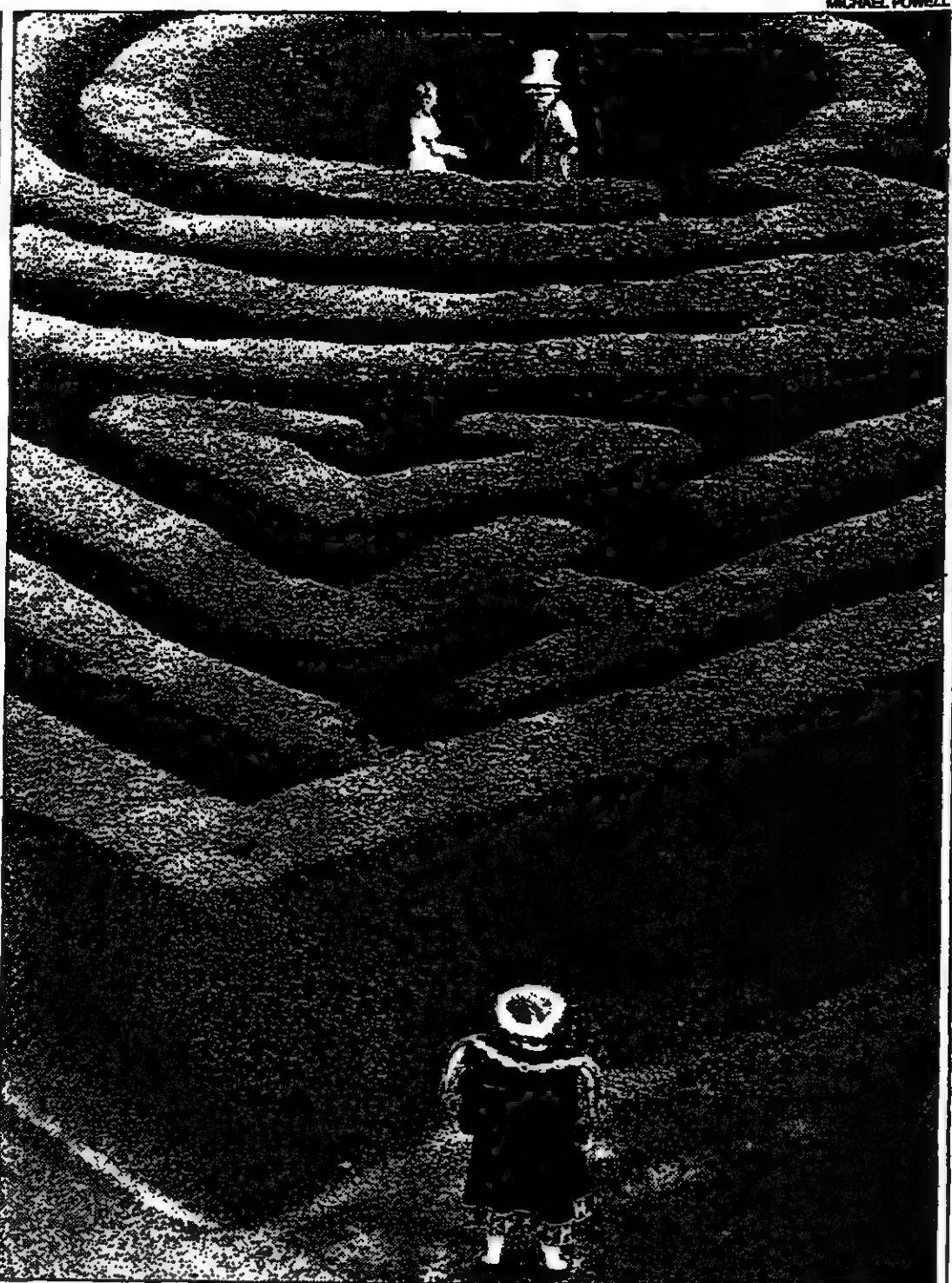
Shooting of PC angers federation

By STEWART TENDLER
CRIME CORRESPONDENT

LEADERS of Britain's 120,000 policemen may call on the government to arm them after the latest in a series of gun attacks on officers which yesterday left a Manchester constable seriously injured. PC Ransford Smith, aged 31, was shot in the face and chest when a police patrol stopped a car in Salford.

As PC Smith lay seriously ill in hospital, the Police Federation raised the prospect of a call for all officers to be armed. Until now the federation, representing junior officers, has opposed the general arming of the police, wishing them to retain their unarmed traditions, and has lobbied for the reinstatement of the death penalty.

PC Smith, a probationary officer, was shot late on Thursday night as he got out of his car near a public house. The other officer in the patrol car was not hurt. Police said a man was being questioned and another was being sought.



Amazing ways: three legendary English figures — King Henry VIII and Lewis Carroll's Wonderland inventions, Alice and the Mad Hatter — help launch the "Year of the Maze", the English Tourist Board's official theme for 1991, in the maze at Hever Castle, Kent

Leadership trio pledge poll tax reform

Continued from page 1

Confrontation moved into its critical phase. He based his appeal on social responsibility and public service. In response to the critics who point to his lack of experience in an economic ministry, Mr Hurd emphasised the need for "sound money" policies to continue. Mrs Thatcher had put economics back in the realm of common sense.

Mr Major promised to turn Britain into a truly classless

society. He laid stress on the need to improve educational standards and boost the status of the teaching profession and suggested that future tax cuts should be concentrated on low earners.

Mr Heseltine's camp was fighting to prevent any erosion of his first round vote of 152, claiming he was best placed to win the next election.

Meanwhile, Conservative Central Office has been swamped with

outraged calls from party members protesting at the removal of Mrs Thatcher, who yesterday received a personal message from President Gorbachev.

Leonid Zamyatin, the Soviet ambassador who delivered the message, read an extract saying: "Mr Gorbachev has no doubt that as a political leader, Mrs Thatcher has made an enormous contribution both to Great Britain and the world community at large."

Mandela to press for formation of interim regime

From GAVIN BELL IN JOHANNESBURG

WITH harsh words being traded between the South African government and the African National Congress (ANC), their respective leaders have scheduled private talks next week in an attempt to resolve differences which are delaying negotiations on a new constitution.

Tough talking is anticipated when President de Klerk and Nelson Mandela, the ANC deputy president, meet on Tuesday amid mutual recriminations over political violence said to be the worst in South Africa's history.

Mr Mandela told African leaders at an economic summit in Swaziland that he would be discussing with Mr de Klerk an interim government, a new multi-racial constituent assembly and a new constitution. "I am going to meet President de Klerk to try to get the peace process back on the rails," Mr Mandela said.

"I will discuss with him the question of the establishment of an interim government for the country. We are convinced that the democratic process as recognised by the democratic world... requires that our negotiating process be supported by democratic principles."

Pretoria has rejected ANC calls for a constituent assembly and an interim government. Instead, it proposes negotiations between all political parties and interest groups, followed by a referendum

for whites and then elections for a post-apartheid government.

Mr Mandela accused the government of "trying to play double standards." The ANC's biggest branch embarked on a collision course with the government for large rallies to demand the prompt release of political prisoners, indemnity for exiles, and a halt to political trials. It also called for the Bophuthatswana tribal homeland to be reintegrated into South Africa.

Ministers accuse the ANC of trying to derail negotiations. Gerrit Viljoen, Pretoria's chief negotiator, said: "The ANC's seriousness and commitment to peace are open to question."

Trevor Manuel, an ANC spokesman, responded that Pretoria was using prisoners as hostages to force the organisation to abandon mass action.

An attempted coup in the Transkei homeland has meanwhile strained relations between its military ruler and Pretoria. After putting down the insurrection by a former second-in-command, General Bantu Holomisa accused South Africa of involvement — a charge swiftly and angrily denied by R.F. "Fik" Botha, the foreign minister.

The general has established close relations with the ANC and in particular with Chris Hani, the chief of staff of its armed wing.

Junior doctors 'prepared to take industrial action'

By JILL SHERMAN, SOCIAL SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

ONE in two junior doctors would be prepared to take industrial action in support of shorter working hours, according to a British Medical Association survey.

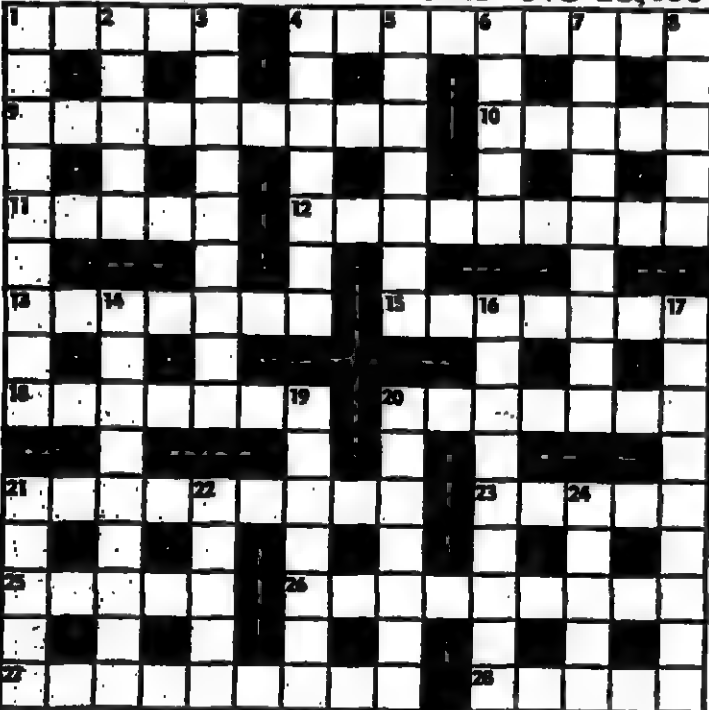
The survey, published yesterday, will be used to put further pressure on the government to agree to a 72-hour week with shift working patterns, backed by 1,500 extra consultant posts. It, at a crucial meeting on December 17, ministers fail to pledge more resources to reduce hours, junior doctors may be officially balloted over industrial action.

More than 50 per cent of the association's 23,000 junior members responded to the questionnaire survey. Ninety-six per cent said that they would be willing to take action of some kind, such as

working to rule or refusing to do clerical work, while 48.7 per cent said they would only provide an emergency service. Only 14.8 per cent of doctors supported total withdrawal of labour. The more militant responses came from house officers, the most junior grades.

A draft consultation paper, being finalised by a ministerial working party, is expected to stipulate a maximum 72-hour working week with a limit on continuous working of 48 hours. The paper, which follows negotiations with the royal medical colleges, juniors and consultants, will be discussed by the junior doctors' committee on December 10, prior to the ministerial meeting.

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 18,460



- ACROSS**
- Loiter about in Low Church assembly (5).
 - Mate with late is a constituent of Dresden (5,4).
 - Sort of comedy hit you have to endure (9).
 - Many are going back to a long dress (5).
 - Peasants took a tropical plant (5).
 - One can get, not disheartened, like Nanki-Poo as a minstrel (9).
 - It comes between the chest and abdomen among the Berber people (7).
 - For going down, a mountainous condition (7).
 - Crumbles from the towel when Jack leaves (7).
 - Rook is part of powerful omen (7).
 - Putting in prison with grave ceremony (9).
 - Cut out dried fruit (5).
 - The spirit that's left is to prop up a Russian leader (5).
 - From the Scale, torreador's song transports us (9).
 - Is he in order to build for nothing? (9).
 - A little tobacco for the turnkey (5).
- DOWN**
- Heavy old Moslem, by the sound of him (9).
 - No rise for a poor actor in America (5).
 - Dicky is the main producer of hives, perhaps (9).
 - Mean about one falling out (7).
 - One name, say, to hold on to in the clue (7).
 - Man is holding up a passageway (5).
 - Consider a fancy double (4,5).
 - Truly the way to get a rise (5).
 - Horizontal plane for start of descent — a Corporation rule (5,4).
 - Car pool is available in fortress (9).
 - Where in the park some habits appear to cause a disgraceful noise (6,3).
 - Fixed pegs in long seats (7).
 - Sort of crossing place in a resort (7).
 - Hull's so-called badinage (5).
 - Religion for the individual, small or grand (5).
 - Is he in order to build for nothing? (9).
 - A little tobacco for the turnkey (5).

Solutions to Puzzle No 18,454

Across: 1. LOITER, 2. MATE, 3. SORT, 4. DRESS, 5. PEASANT, 6. NANKI-POO, 7. CHEST, 8. MOUNTAIN, 9. CRUMBLE, 10. ROOK, 11. PRISON, 12. DRIED, 13. SPIRIT, 14. SCALE, 15. BUILD, 16. TURNKEY.

Solutions to Puzzle No 18,459

Across: 1. LOITER, 2. MATE, 3. SORT, 4. DRESS, 5. PEASANT, 6. NANKI-POO, 7. CHEST, 8. MOUNTAIN, 9. CRUMBLE, 10. ROOK, 11. PRISON, 12. DRIED, 13. SPIRIT, 14. SCALE, 15. BUILD, 16. TURNKEY.

PARKER A prize of a superb Parker Duofold International Fountain Pen, with an 18 carat gold nib and fully guaranteed for the lifetime of the original owner will be given for the first five correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, PO Box 486, Virginia Street, London E1 9DD. The winners and solution will be published next Saturday.

Name/Address

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

- SNOWDROP**
- To steal underwear
 - An advertising campaign
 - To snuff candles
- ERUMPENT**
- With a big backside
 - Breaking out
 - Rousing
- SPECCATO**
- A half staccato
 - An Italian label
 - An embezzler's needle
- BROOGE**
- A wedding cake
 - A hot alcoholic drink
 - Cut and unmanly

Answers on page 15

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0898 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701
West Surrey	702
West Sussex	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilt, Gloucestershire, Somerset	705
West Midlands	706
East Midlands	707
North Midlands	708
North East	709
Yorkshire & Lancashire	710
East of England	711
West of England	712
North East of England	713
South East	714
South West	715
Wales & South Wales	716
North Wales	717
London & SE traffic, roadworks	718
London & SE traffic, roadworks	719
London & SE traffic, roadworks	720
London & SE traffic, roadworks	721
London & SE traffic, roadworks	722
London & SE traffic, roadworks	723
London & SE traffic, roadworks	724
London & SE traffic, roadworks	725
London & SE traffic, roadworks	726
London & SE traffic, roadworks	727

Weathercall is charged at 33p per minute (cheap rate) and 44p per minute at all other times.

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0836 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks	728
London & SE traffic, roadworks	729
London & SE traffic, roadworks	730
London & SE traffic, roadworks	731
London & SE traffic, roadworks	732
London & SE traffic, roadworks	733
London & SE traffic, roadworks	734
London & SE traffic, roadworks	735
London & SE traffic, roadworks	736
London & SE traffic, roadworks	737
London & SE traffic, roadworks	738
London & SE traffic, roadworks	739
London & SE traffic, roadworks	740
London & SE traffic, roadworks	741
London & SE traffic, roadworks	742
London & SE traffic, roadworks	743
London & SE traffic, roadworks	744
London & SE traffic, roadworks	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 33p per minute (cheap rate) and 44p per minute at all other times.

The winners of last Saturday's competition are: P M Stringer, Bessie, Gardens, Westbury-on-Trym, Bristol; E D Clague, Trowde Park, Douglas, Isle of Man; S Auckland, Marsh Lane, Shepley, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire; J Booth, Mounsey Road, Taunton, Somerset; J H Greenfield, Oakdale Court, Downend, Bristol.

Conclude crossword, page 15

WEATHER

South-east England will start dull and wet but clearer weather over the south-west will spread. There will be some sunshine but heavy showers too. Wales, the Midlands, East Anglia and more southern counties of northern England will have a dull, rainy day. The border counties and southern Scotland will have some sun and a few showers, but northern Scotland will be mostly wet. Outlook: cold with showers.

ABROAD

Area	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Notes
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear

AROUND BRITAIN

Area	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Notes
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear

HIGH TIDES

Area	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Notes
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear

LIGHTING-UP TIME

Area	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Notes
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear

NOON TODAY

Area	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Notes
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear

TODAY

Area	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Notes
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear

WEATHER

South-east England will start dull and wet but clearer weather over the south-west will spread. There will be some sunshine but heavy showers too. Wales, the Midlands, East Anglia and more southern counties of northern England will have a dull, rainy day. The border counties and southern Scotland will have some sun and a few showers, but northern Scotland will be mostly wet. Outlook: cold with showers.

ABROAD

Area	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Notes
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear

AROUND BRITAIN

Area	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Notes
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear

HIGH TIDES

Area	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Notes
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	Clear
Algeria	15-20	SE	10-20	

SPORT 27-433
BUSINESS AND FINANCE 34-39
WEEKEND MONEY 40-44

SPORT

A shop window of delights

SUMMARY

Driving force



PENTTI Airtaka (above), of Finland, starts the Lombard RAC Rally at Harrogate tomorrow seeking to repeat his success of last year. Driving a Ford Sierra Cosworth, he leads the field into the toughest event of the British motor sport calendar.

This year, the rally has been cut to four days and the 180 competitors have been allowed to study the stages in advance, part of a new format designed to make the event more competitive than ever. Preview Page 30

BOXING

Bout of nerves

HEROL Graham, the British middleweight, has possibly his last chance to win a long overdue world title tonight when he meets Julian Jackson, of the Virgin Islands, in Spain. Preview Page 32

RACING

Knight move



VON Cadek, formerly the leading steeplechaser in the United States and now trained by Henrietta Knight (above) in Berkshire, will be among the challengers to Mr Frisk, this year's Grand National and Whitbread Gold Cup winner, in the Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup at Newbury this afternoon. Page 32

HOCKEY

Stick question

Two years ago, Great Britain won the Olympic gold medal. Now, following a succession of poor results, the critics are wondering if all the extensive and expensive training has been worthwhile. Sydney Friskin, Hockey Correspondent, examines the team's problems. Page 28

FOOTBALL

Pain in Spain

AS JOHN Toshack joins the list of British managers sacked in Spain, Colin Addison and Howard Kendall talk about the pressures and the politics of trying to run a club in a foreign country. Page 29

GOLF

Joint effort



ENGLAND'S Mark James (above) and Richard Boxall, held a one-shot lead at the halfway stage in the World Cup of Golf in Florida. James had a 71 and Boxall a 69 to keep them in front of Spain, with the United States a further shot back. Page 31

RUGBY UNION

Wing clipped

LEICESTER'S prospects of upsetting Bath in the third round of the Pilkington Cup have plummeted with the loss of three players, among them Rory Underwood, the England wing. And can such minnows as Spartans, from Gloucester, and High Wycombe swim their way past the bigger fish? Page 31

DAVID MILLER CHIEF SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

THIS is an historic day for rugby league, and not just because Great Britain have the chance to win the three-match series against Australia in the final encounter at Leeds. It is a moment in which the league game, 95 years on from its breakaway, rides a tide of publicity that reveals it as a legitimate and worthy rival to the union game for amateur players.

Every sport needs heroes in its shop window. On the domestic scene this autumn, rugby union — the international season for which is in the new year — has no players to catch the imagination of the young in the way that Hanley, Offish and Schofield, of Britain, or Eitinghausen, Stuart and Meninge, of Australia, have done in two riveting matches so far.

Not only rugby union, teetering on the edge of the same amateur/professional precipice as it was in 1985, but also association football should be asking why rugby league is predominantly more exciting and more firmly administered in the modern era than they are.

It should also be noted, simultaneously, that 95 per cent of those playing rugby league are amateur, with Plymouth to Newcastle, with the best of them playing it to a high standard. Dudley Hill, of Bradford, recently lost by only six points to Dewsbury's professionals in the preliminary round of the Regal Trophy.

When, at a meeting at the George Hotel, Huddersfield, in 1895, 21 northern clubs left the Rugby Football Union — on the issue of being allowed to pay a maximum six shillings (30p) broken-time for a man who had sacrificed an 18-hour day down a mine — two revolutionary changes followed. Within a couple of years, the league game had become fully professional; and in order to meet the new financial demands, and to make the game more publicly attractive, time-outs were abolished and the team reduced to 13 players from 15.

It is the former which alarms the British Isles diehard conventional-

ists among rugby union's international board (IRB), yet it is the latter which, I believe, in the long term poses an equal threat to the upper level of the union game.

On the one hand, many rugby union administrators, such as Dudley Wood, of England, recognise the imminent danger of the IRB's recent relaxations on professionalism, with the probability that before the end of the century international rugby union will have become almost wholly professional.

On the other hand, the six-tackle league rule, introduced in the early 1970s and by which one side may not grid down the play, has made the league game the exhilarating spectacle we have witnessed during the past couple of months of the Kangaroos' tour — and made it a serious rival for youth enlistment, too. You cannot afford to take your eye off the pitch for a moment, whereas at union matches, and at much of soccer, there is regularly time to debate the Tory Party's European economic policy without missing a beat.

The relative figures for the proportion of time during which the ball is in play are: rugby league, 75 per cent; soccer (in the recent World Cup), 47 per cent; rugby union, 25 per cent.

It is, of course, the figure for rugby union which allows tens of thousands of comparatively unfit amateur sportsmen to enormously enjoy their Saturday outings; and which conversely makes it so hard for the majority of converts from union to league. It is the reason why so many fail. Jonathan Davies, the former Wales rugby union international, will tell you that the concentration level at league rises three-fold.

The league game, which in public entertainment terms consists of the two-division fully professional Rugby Football League (RFL), has outgrown the northern, old-fashioned George Formby image, epitomised by the commentaries of Eddie Waring, with their worn, self-parodying clichés. The game now speaks for itself. There is a view that Waring did help put the game on a national footing, which the previous 70 years had failed to do, while some say that the present television commentaries of Ray French, a dual-code international, are too crude and analytical.

What the present Great Britain-Australia series has done, with a record crowd at Wembley, and full houses for Old Trafford and now Leeds, is to bring the game to millions of new approving eyes. Here is a sport that clearly knows what it is doing, on and off the field; that manages to be both ferociously hard and exceptionally skilful, and still predominately sporting.

The RFL is fortunate in having as its chief executive a man whom the Football Association unwisely overlooked in its quest for new leadership; and who wanted the job. David Oxley heads a board of six directors who meet once a week, can quickly take all day-to-day policy decisions, with only the occasional need to refer to the full council. Three years ago, the council voluntarily stripped themselves of power, and the RFL, with £8 million in sponsorship over the next three years, is a model of how sport should be governed.

Every year the RFL is able to give £350,000 to the amateur body, the British Amateur Rugby League Association, through its foundation, which also receives £160,000 from the Sports Council. With 1,000 schools playing the game, and increasing that number by 100 a year, rugby league today can truly celebrate.

Match preview and teams, page 28



Pass masters: Hanley about to unload to Hampson during the build-up to today's international

Morris to join England party

By RICHARD STREETON

HUGH Morris, the left-handed Glamorgan opening batsman, was summoned to Australia by England yesterday as a reinforcement until Graham Gooch's infected hand heals.

Morris, aged 27, has practised regularly indoors during the autumn in readiness for the England tour to Pakistan in early January, for which he is captain.

Gooch hopes to be fit to play by the third week in December. England start a four-day game with Victoria at Ballarat on December 20, which is followed by the second Test in Melbourne on Boxing Day. In case Gooch is still unavailable, England felt it essential to have a fully accustomed reserve batsman on the spot.

Morris leaves for Australia tomorrow and will arrive in Adelaide on Tuesday before England start a string of one-day fixtures. If Gooch recovers as hoped, Morris would return home to captain the A team as originally arranged. They are expected to leave

London on January 7.

A prolific scorer for Glamorgan last summer, Morris came close to being an original selection for Australia. He has only just returned from a short tour to Barbados, which could not have occurred at a better time.

"I received a telephone call from Alan Smith of the Test and County Cricket Board late on Thursday afternoon telling me to prepare myself to fly out," Morris said. "I've been in many countries playing cricket, but never before in Australia."

"Of course I am excited at the prospect of joining the team, but a little nervous after watching much of the first day's play at Brisbane on satellite television."

The uncapped Morris was sympathetic to Gooch, but added: "For me, of course, this is a tremendous personal challenge."

"It's a great shame I'm going there in the circumstances I am because Graham is so important to the England side. He's England's best player at the moment and it would be great for him to be in the side. But I don't want to go

all that way and just act as cover. I want to play. To play for the full England side in an Ashes series is the pinnacle of any cricketer's career."

But the board spokesman, Peter Smith, stressed: "Hugh has been pulled in for cover only. Even if he hits a rich vein of form in Australia he will go on to captain the A side in Pakistan, unless Graham Gooch does not recover or somebody else is injured."

"Obviously, we are aware of the possibility that Hugh might have to stay in Australia and a new A team skipper appointed, but it hasn't come to that yet."

Morris is only the fourth Glamorgan cricketer, after Parkhouse, McCann and Jeff Jones, to visit Australia with England.

Two factors contributed to his remarkable advance last summer, when he set several Glamorgan records by finishing with 2,276 runs at an average of 55.51 and scored six centuries and ten fifties.

The first was his decision during the 1989 season to relinquish the captaincy. He was only 22 and

Glamorgan's youngest captain in their history when he was appointed in 1986 to lead a far from harmonious team and his own form waned under the responsibility. Morris blamed the cares of office for his loss of form, which also led to technical faults creeping into his play.

These, however, were sorted out during the following winter by Tom Cartwright, the county coach, at the indoor nets at Neath. Morris's forceful strokes all round the wicket were seen at their best and he scarcely failed all summer. Morris, who also acknowledges the help Viv Richards gave him, has never ruled out the possibility of returning to county captaincy.

From school days, Morris's promise was obvious. He played for the Cardiff club's first XI when 14 and at Rhinellid's set numerous records. He was only 17 when he first played for Glamorgan, in 1981, and was captain of England's under-19 schoolboys.

Raid scuppers England, page 28

Harlequins withdraw from three fixtures

By DAVID HANDS
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

THE impact of representative rugby next month has forced Harlequins to cancel three first-team games. Various divisional and county calls, as well as seasonal travelling, deprive the club of 38 players, even before injuries are considered.

The Rugby Football Union's decision to marry, for the first time this season, divisional and county matches on the same three weekends, December 1, 8 and 15, made this a possible consequence and Harlequins have been communicating with their scheduled opponents, Blackheath, Bedford and Rugby, for some months to warn them of the possibility.

"Quins have had long and warm

relationships with the three clubs concerned and look forward to a resumption of these fixtures at the earliest opportunity," a club statement said. Unfortunately, the decision comes too late for Blackheath to accept a request to host Kent's game with Devon, which has now gone to Askeans. Blackheath will not seek an alternative game.

"We do regret the cancellation and I have written to Harlequins to say so," Roger Pearce, the Blackheath secretary, said. "To be fair to them they made warning noises back in May that they might have difficulty."

Leicester's woes, page 31

Daredevils in pursuit of recognition

SIMON BARNES ON SATURDAY

THIS has always been the column that supports tri-cycle racing. But today I wish to express unbridled and unequivocal support for a sport that offers, if possible, still greater possibilities. The sport in question is the racing of tandem tri-cycles: berserk machines carrying two demoted, pedalling capable of touching 50mph and sweeping round roundabouts on two wheels: a sight to stir the blood of any person with red blood in the veins.

Earlier this year, the tri-cycle racers at last won grudging recognition from the Road Time Trials Councils. This body meets on December 2, and has five separate proposals demanding recognition for competition records set by tandem tri-cycles.

Tandem tri-cyclists are not dilettantes: a decent racing machine costs £2,500. They are capable of covering 25 miles in 45 minutes, thus sustaining a pace well in excess of 30mph. An ordinary two-wheeled tandem is likely to be about three minutes faster over the same distance. Trikes — single-seaters and tandems both — are less manoeuvrable than two-wheelers, and can get caught in traffic tailbacks, but that has not stopped them going through a record-breaking season. It is surely time for the council to recognise records set by the magnificent tandem tri-cycles.

Perdomo bites back

And now for the latest excitement from Italian football. Faithful readers may recall Vujadin Boskov, who recently said of José Perdomo: "My dog

could play better." Perdomo is now saying: "He was negotiating a transfer from Genoa to Coventry, of all places. Negotiations fell through and Perdomo blames Boskov. Perdomo's lawyer, a man with the superbly incongruous name of Degli Innocenti, has stated that the only way Boskov could win the case is by demonstrating to the court that his dog really does play better than Perdomo. Perhaps Coventry will sign the dog."

Meanwhile, Toto Schillaci, the Sicilian superstar of Juventus, appears to have done himself nothing but good by allegedly threatening to have an opponent shot. This odd incident took place last week, as was reported here. Schillaci cannot be prosecuted, because no third party heard the alleged threat. His mother told the press that every one picks on him anyway. The Juventus mobster, Gianni Agnelli, of Fiat, said Schillaci was the more innocent party in the dispute. A Sicilian playwright said it was the sort of thing Sicilians say to each other all the time. And the disputed penalty that was the cause of the row was shown to be a genuine foul by the slo-mo. In short, everything has fallen Schillaci's way. Last Sunday, he scored three times as Juventus beat Roma 5-0.

More scoring power

For years, in the noble cause of reader service, this column has been trying to

resolve the most important question in sport: does sex affect sporting performance? Susan Butt, professor of psychology at the University of British Columbia, is all for it: provided that the athletes do not get over-enthusiastic.

"Depending on an athlete's personality and physical make-up, sexual activity within reason might even enhance his or her performance," she said. But she added: "So far and even polled muscles after sexual activity are common. Many people refer to sexual activity as a 'workout', and sweating, breathlessness, unfeeling and repetition are all parts of the process." However, let us not take this as final. "The poverty of the literature on the relationship between physical and sexual activity is striking," she said.

Discussions of sporting matters tend to degenerate after the first three or four hours. "Well," one says, "what I think is that they ought to sack the lot of them. Every single bloody one." Where some dream, the Ethiopian Football Federation acts. The men of that organisation were unimpressed by their side's 2-0 defeat at the feet of Tunisia in the African Nations Cup recently. So they have dismissed Abeneh Desta, the coach, Haile Tesfa Gabir, his assistant, and disbanded the entire national squad.

Discussions of sporting matters tend to degenerate after the first three or four hours. "Well," one says, "what I think is that they ought to sack the lot of them. Every single bloody one." Where some dream, the Ethiopian Football Federation acts. The men of that organisation were unimpressed by their side's 2-0 defeat at the feet of Tunisia in the African Nations Cup recently. So they have dismissed Abeneh Desta, the coach, Haile Tesfa Gabir, his assistant, and disbanded the entire national squad.

Falling for the bait

More on sex: I learn that female anglers do better than men because the

fish are sexually attracted to them. Examples of success from female anglers: Georgina Ballantine claimed the biggest salmon ever caught in a British river in 1922. It was 64 pounds. The biggest shark caught off Britain was a 500-pounder hooked by Joyce Yallop 19 years ago. Peter Behan, professor of clinical neurology at Glasgow University, says that fish, especially salmon, respond to chemical messages, which possibly guide them on migration. It seems quite possible, he says, that they could sense the sex hormones of women through bait, hook, rod and line, and be attracted to them. The claim is expressed in a book called *Salmon and Women: The Feminine Angle*. Barbara Hargreaves once caught five salmon on a day when male colleagues all around her caught none. But she was not impressed by the book's suggestions. "I have," she said, "better things to do with my hormones than catch fish."

Ludicrous line-ups

Entries for the Team Nightmare competition are now pouring in. To recap: I am inviting readers to select the ghastliest possible team, on whatever grounds they wish. I already have suggestions for, among other weird ideas, the most horrifying and the most useless football teams, the most apathy-named football team and the team with the best entries will receive bottles full of lumpy delight: Calum Colthearts 1957 no less. Self and senior cat will make our first judgments next week.

Up to 3 weeks
business advice
with up to
two thirds off.

The Enterprise Initiative from DTI offers highly rated business brains at highly competitive rates.

We will pay up to two thirds of the cost of 5 to 15 days consultancy in the fields of Marketing, Design and Business Planning. Or Manufacturing, Quality, Financial and Information Systems.

If you run an independent manufacturing or service business with fewer than 500 employees, fill in the coupon, or ring us on 0800 500 200.

Post to: Quality Initiative, FREEPOST BS3333, Bristol BS1 6GZ.
Or call free on 0800 500 200.

Name _____
Position _____
Name of Firm _____
Address _____
Postcode _____
Telephone _____ No. of Employees _____

Is your business primarily involved in:
Construction ☐ Manufacturing ☐ Service ☐

the Enterprise Initiative

Four successful British coaches who fell foul of their employers' unreasonable demands

Tale of Spanish ingratitude

CLIVE WHITE

WHAT do John Toshack, Terry Venables, Howard Kendall and Colin Addison have in common? Answer: they were all British coaches who got the sack. If that sounds like a contradiction in terms, that is because it is, rationality having no place in the politics of Spanish football.

Most "failed" expatriates, though, have not only been able to cry all the way to the bank, but have walked straight back into executive employment in Britain. "Clive" returned to Tottenham Hotspur, Kendall to Everton (via Manchester City), while Ron Atkinson, still fighting Atlético Madrid for compensation in the Spanish courts, at least went back to a better job, at Sheffield Wednesday, than the one he left.

After coaching Real Madrid, it can only be downhill for Toshack, yet the Welshman, one of the few who did not slide too far, possibly just down the other side of the Pyrenees into a remunerative contract with Real Sociedad, his former club. But for someone less celebrated, like Addison, it has been a slippery slope back to the English fourth division.

Since losing his job as coach of Atlético, one of the biggest clubs in Europe, in April of last year, he has found himself back where he started, 19 years ago, on the first rung of the managerial ladder, at Hereford. It is a far cry from the bull ring of the Vicente Calderón Stadium in Madrid with its crowds of 70,000; Edgar Street is lucky if it sees more than 2,500.

At Atlético, Addison had Futre, the Portuguese international, Manolo and a few Brazilian internationals among others at his disposal. The only future he has now is the YTS lads he is forced to lean upon because of injuries. "One adjusts," he said, without a hint of understatement.

What irked him about Atlético was not so much his dismissal, which he long since accepted as an occupational hazard, but the timing of it by Jesus Gil, the club's president and well known despot who, at the last count, had ten



Back where he started: Addison finds himself at Hereford again after losing his job at Atlético Madrid

managerial stunts in 39 months to his name. "We were halfway through a Spanish cup semi-final and within a couple of points of qualifying for Europe when he sacked me. In England it would probably have got me a three-year contract," Addison said.

It was not Addison's first experience of Spanish ingratitude. Three years earlier, he had taken Celtic Vigo from the second division to the first in his first season with the club. Due to his mother's ill health he failed to appear at the club's open day next season and was dismissed.

Addison had originally been No. 2 at Atlético to Atkinson, whose dismissal came as just as much of a shock to him, given that Atlético were third in the league at the time. "We were talking about new signings; two days later, he fired me," Atkinson said.

Kendall at least left Athletic Bilbao on more amicable terms, after suffering three

defeats in six days. He received a £125,000 handshake and numerous offers to return to the club any time as a guest.

"They were struggling and they wanted someone to build a young side for the future," Kendall said. "My only problem is that we qualified for Europe in my first season instead of the second."

It must have made a pleasant change for Addison, to have the last word earlier this year. Out of work for six months following his dismissal by Atlético, he was asked by Cadix, one of the perennial strugglers of the Spanish first division, to help them avoid relegation with three months of the season remaining. Addison agreed and Cadix, needing a point on the last day, stayed up by winning their final four games. But Addison declined an offer to stay on.

"You cannot begin to envisage the daily pressures that there are at clubs like Atlético. Day after day of press con-

ferences and television coverage, they want to know what Saturday's score is going to be a week in advance. They want to know why you pointed your finger at a certain player. Why you reorganised with another - and that's just on training days," Addison said.

If presidents are not interfering with the running of the team, they have other means of letting coaches know what they are thinking.

"With two national daily sports newspapers, you could read what the president had to say every day. Presidents in Spain also talk to players more than chairmen do in England. It happens on a daily basis, particularly when a club has a foreign manager. They ask them their views of the manager and of the tactics being used. It all adds to the pressure," Addison said.

Despite the trials and tribulations experienced by British managers, ever since Arthur Penland blazed a trail to the Iberian peninsula some

60-odd years ago, their stock has remained high. "They value our mental tenacity," he said.

Addison's return to Hereford, where he still has his home, coincided with Ian Bowyer's dismissal as manager, and though he once said he would never return to the club, the offer to become manager and, in time, chief executive, was, he felt, too good to refuse.

The last time he took charge of Hereford he succeeded John Charles, perhaps the greatest expatriate of them all, and embarked upon one of the great FA Cup runs of post-war history. A non-league club then, Hereford reached the fourth round after beating Newcastle United in a replay with an unforgettable strike from Ronnie Radford. This season, Addison's run ended in a first-round replay at Peterborough on Tuesday night - short and sweet, like a stay in Spain.

Chelsea's decline mystifies manager

By CLIVE WHITE

TOMORROW is not the best of times for Chelsea to come under national scrutiny in the television match against Manchester United at Old Trafford. Their problems on the pitch are only matched by those off it as Ken Bates, their chairman, fights a desperate rearguard action to safeguard the future of Stamford Bridge.

Chelsea could take some encouragement from the return to their side of Dave Bassett, their England goalkeeper, if it was not for the fact that goalkeeping has not been their problem in recent weeks. Chelsea have registered just one win in nine League games.

One had assumed that a combination of a soft centre in defence and some appalling luck, like that which befell Peter Nicholas in the first minute of last week's match at Wimbledon, when he headed past his own goalkeeper, have been primarily responsible. But Bobby Campbell, the Chelsea manager, hinted at other reasons possible changes yesterday.

"You look around and think, why is this? Some of them might have other things on their mind than playing for Chelsea. But it's in the brain and you can't get to it. It's not an attitude problem, but there do seem to be other distractions," he said.

Disorder was doubtless one of those who Campbell had in mind. The former England forward has had a £10,000 theft charge hanging over him and is due to court before magistrates again on Tuesday. After a good start to the season by Dennis Wise - his sending off at St. Helier Park notwithstanding - he has struggled recently to show his best form.

Two 19-year-olds, Damien Matthews, a midfield player, and Graham Stuart, a forward, are included in a squad of 17. Bassett returns after missing four games with a broken finger and conceding that Kevin Hitchcock is unfortunate to lose his place.

"I spoke to Kevin and told him to lose confidence. The trouble with being a goalkeeper is that there is just one place in the team - other players can swap and change and move into different positions."

The Chelsea manager at Old Trafford is expected to dip below 40,000 for the first time for a League game there this season. United's last three home League matches have all been won by more than 4,000. Liverpool, at the point of the field and 17 points ahead of United, were hardly in need of the boost they received when John Barnes and Alan Hansen were included in the squad for the match against Manchester City at Anfield. Hansen, the club captain, has not played a senior game all season.

Kenny Dalglish's comment that Hansen is in "as good a condition as anybody who has been through what he has" did not tell us a great deal about Hansen's standard of fitness. Barnes's chances of playing after missing three games with a hamstring injury appear to be no better than 50-50.

Howe looking forward to Gould reunion

By LOUISE TAYLOR

Norwich having recovered from a shaky start to take 11 points from their last five matches, this should be an intriguing contest. Reminiscent of the time when Loftus Road where Arsenal are the visitors, Don Howe, the Queen's Park Rangers coach, will be keen to succeed against the club to which he devoted so much of his career before the Highbury brand terminated his contract. Similarly, David Seaman, the Arsenal goalkeeper, wants to impress on returning to his former home.

Loftus United seek their fifth successive win at Coventry, now managed by Terry Butcher, who, until ten days ago, appeared bound for Elland Road as a player.

Conscious that it was his defensive error which prompted the goal which led to defeat by Liverpool last week, Butcher has instructed Dixie McNeil and Terry Payne, his coaches, to have no qualms about substituting him should the need arise.

"I have got to rely on the honesty of my coaching staff," Butcher, who is expected to appoint Mick Mills, a former colleague at Ipswich Town, as his assistant next week, said. More immediately, he spent yesterday pondering on how best to blunt Leeds. He identified the principal problem as the midfield. He said: "David Barry is very good, and Gordon Strachan has been doing well like him."

One particularly interested spectator at Highfield Road will be Nikolai Litke, the Bulgarian utility player, who yesterday joined Leeds on loan from Bologna, of the Italian first division.

Liverpool provide the cream for waffles and syrup

LAURA THOMPSON

Sport small-talk is in-exhaustible. One goes to the well and there is always water. Other small-talk subjects - for example, what do you do, where do you live, by what means do you propel yourself around London (is that really my idea of conversation? What a terrible idea I must be!) are finite. There is only so much one can say about a mortgage; but a conversation about sport can stretch into infinity.

The other marvellous thing I have discovered about sport small-talk is that it is impersonal. The job, the flat, the mortgage, they all demand that one show an interest in somebody else and, as everyone knows, there is nothing more boring than having to listen while other people talk about themselves. Sport is that oh-so-welcome third party who comes up to you both, breathing new air, creating a diversion, taking the heat off, preventing you having to think of another question to ask ("So did you pay more with rates?").

And, without a doubt, football will always be first in my conversational league table. It is the Liverpool of sport small-talk. Before I started liking the game, I had no idea that all the pleasure derived from watching it was given a complete action replay in the pleasure derived from talking about it. I also had no idea that one could talk about football without really knowing what one was talking about.

My remarks contain enough waffle to soak up a whole Waitrose-full of maple syrup; but it does not matter. Even if only one person in the football small-talk group knows what they are talking about, that gives everyone else enough to ricochet around until closing time, or indeed until the end of the world.

Earlier in the year, I was watching the FA Cup, I was watching the FA Cup with my family. My father was the only man in the room and, therefore, knowing that he would go unchallenged, decided to disseminate knowledge. He produced a few pearly phrases ("Good player, Ince" and "Clever man, Coppell"), then, terrified, he latched on to something. Every single, separate time that Mark Hughes touched, or indeed even looked at, the ball, my father turned to the Women with an air of sagacity and said: "Dangerous man, Hughes".

Eventually, after much touching and crossing and shooting, the law of averages decreed that Hughes must

Vet supports Broome call on drug tests

By LOUISE TAYLOR

JOHN McEwen, the British show jumping team veterinary surgeon, yesterday supported David Broome's call for a revision of the doping control procedures of the International Equestrian Federation (FEI) after the positive testing of Broome's horse, Llanegryn, for a minute quantity of the drug Isoxsuprine at the Dublin Horse Show last July (Jenny MacArthur writes).

The drug was traced back to a contaminated electrolyte, a legal substance, which Broome was giving his horse for dehydration. Although Broome, a member of the FEI ethics committee, has been criticised by the FEI, he was disqualified from all competitions.

McEwen, who investigated the case for Broome, said that the sample "could in no way have affected the horse's performance".

While Broome has decided not to appeal, Ad Aarts, of The Netherlands, whose world carriage driving title is at stake after a positive dope test for theobromine made on one of his horses, is to take his case before the appeals tribunal.

Bid for O'Leary is rejected

By LOUISE TAYLOR

THE Southampton manager, Chris Nicholl, has been rebuffed by Arsenal in an attempt to sign David O'Leary. Nicholl enquired about the Irish international defender, who Southampton's 4-0 defeat last Saturday, but he did not even get as far as discussing a fee before Graham made it clear his man was not for sale.

Tommy Geyson, who settled his differences with Nottingham Forest by signing a new three-year contract yesterday, promptly joined Newcastle United on a month's loan.

Paul Gascoigne will be included in the Tottenham Hotspur team but not Gary

Weekend team news

First division
Coventry v Leeds
Speedie and Kilmare have recovered from injury and could start for Coventry, who delay selection. Butcher, the player-manager, definitely plays Leeds are unchanged for the third consecutive time.
Derby v Nott'm Forest
Cross (fractured leg) is sidelined for Derby, so Pickering returns to start. Forest's late fitness test: Round joins the squad. Wilson (Achilles) is doubtful for Derby; Kilmare stands by Cross (fractured leg) is recalled.
Liverpool v Man City
Hansen, for the first time this season, and Barnes return to the Liverpool squad. Reid, the City player-manager who omitted himself at Luton last week, is reinstated. Cotton (hip) faces a late fitness test. Okide is poised to deputise in goal.
Luton v Aston Villa
Beaumont (influenza) is highly doubtful for Luton; McDonough or James will deputise. Farrell is likely to be promoted from the substitutes' bench to start in attack. Glas, Villa's recent signing

IN BRIEF

Eye injury for Andries
AN EYE injury suffered by Dennis Andries while training in Chicago has led to his postponement of his World Boxing Council light-heavyweight title contest with Guy Waters, scheduled for Adelaide next month. The British champion's handlers requested a delay until January 18 or 19.
Najib Dabo, the former British super-featherweight champion, is a late replacement for Mark Reeler to contest the vacant Commonwealth title at York Hall, Bethnal Green on Monday against Thunder Ayeah, of Ghana.
AMERICAN FOOTBALL
Emmitt Smith, a rookie, rushed 23 times for 132 yards and scored two second-half touchdowns as the Dallas Cowboys beat the Washington Redskins 27-17 for their first back-to-back victory since 1987.
BASKETBALL
Karl Brown, the Leicester guard, aged 23, has come into the England squad

Bassett plotting to straighten record

By LOUISE TAYLOR

AS THE odd one out among 92 teams, Sheffield United's isolation is anything but splendid. They are the only side who have still to win a League match, a state of affairs that Dave Bassett's players intend to rectify against Sunderland at Bramall Lane this afternoon.

Sunderland, who were promoted with a record of 10 wins and 10 draws, are too close to the bottom of the table for comfort despite earning some favourable notices from the critics, who have done nothing but pan the performance of United's new manager.

Bassett would no doubt also like to gain revenge for the result of their last meeting in Sheffield, a 3-1 win for Sunderland. Derby County entertain Nottingham Forest in an East Midlands derby for the first time since the death of Peter Taylor, who, as assistant to Brian Clough, helped the Rams to the League championship for both clubs before returning alone to the Baseball Ground as manager, where he enjoyed little success. Forest aim to extend an unbeaten run of five wins and one draw against Derby, since County returned to the first division in 1987.

Former associations will also be reviewed at White Hart Lane, where the Norwich City players, Mark Bowen, Ian Culverhouse, and Ian Crook, were all rejected by Tottenham Hotspur. The three have since been loaned to White Hart Lane by Terry Venables, the Tottenham manager, will not underestimate his club's cast-offs. "If I had been the manager when Crook was here he would definitely not have been allowed to leave," he said yesterday. With Venables's team third in the table and

the seventh successive time, Walton, the reserve goalkeeper, stands by.
Southampton v C Palace
Chris Nicholl's side are expected to return to Southampton, who give Moore a late fitness test. O'Leary stands by. Cherednik, the Russian defender, is expected to return to Southampton after a late fitness test. Cherednik, who has not played since he was injured by a tackle from Tottenham's defender, is expected to return to Southampton after a late fitness test.
Wimbledon v Everton
Faulstich and Phelan are expected to return to Wimbledon, who give Frynall (fractured leg) a late fitness test. Swart, who is without Watson (suspended) and Snodin (hamstring), could recall Whitehead.
Timor v Chelsea
Man Utd v Chelsea
Luton 14, Bournemouth 14, and 12 involved in the win against Sheffield United last week. Sunderland is fit and ready. Hitchcock in goal for Chelsea. La Stan, Burnham, and Martin are added to the 12 involved in the win against Sheffield United last week. Sunderland is fit and ready. Hitchcock in goal for Chelsea. La Stan, Burnham, and Martin are added to the 12 involved in the win against Sheffield United last week.

YACHTING

Designer Clark dismissed by De Savary

DEREK Clark, the brains behind Blue Arrow, Peter de Savary's America's Cup challenger, has been sacked yesterday as the designer for the 1992 cup challenge (Barry Pickhall writes).
Clark, who sailed for de Savary in 1983, reaching the final of the America's Cup challenge, was dismissed after taking Australian citizenship to compete for Australia in 1987, played a central role in developing the rules for the new 70ft America's Cup class.
He has been replaced by Ian Howitt, who designed the Liberator for the 1980 challenge. Victory 83 and Graham Walker's 1987 challenger, White Crusader.
Howitt will work closely with Phil Morrison, who will utilise the results of Clark's extensive test-tank research to draw up the lines after observing the America's Cup class world championship in San Diego in May.

FOR THE RECORD

AMERICAN FOOTBALL
NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE (NFL): Dallas 40, Denver Broncos 27; Dallas Cowboys 27, Washington Redskins 17.
BOWLS
HONG KONG: International polo tournament. Section A: English won 10-0; Hong Kong 0-10. Section B: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section C: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section D: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section E: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section F: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section G: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section H: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section I: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section J: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section K: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section L: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section M: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section N: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section O: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section P: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section Q: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section R: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section S: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section T: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section U: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section V: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section W: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section X: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section Y: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section Z: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section AA: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section AB: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section AC: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section AD: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section AE: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section AF: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section AG: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section AH: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section AI: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section AJ: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section AK: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section AL: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section AM: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section AN: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section AO: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section AP: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section AQ: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section AR: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section AS: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section AT: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section AU: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section AV: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section AW: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section AX: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section AY: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section AZ: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section BA: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section BB: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section BC: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section BD: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section BE: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section BF: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section BG: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section BH: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section BI: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section BJ: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section BK: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section BL: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section BM: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section BN: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section BO: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section BP: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section BQ: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section BR: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section BS: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section BT: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section BU: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section BV: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section BW: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section BX: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section BY: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section BZ: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section CA: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section CB: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section CC: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section CD: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section CE: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section CF: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section CG: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section CH: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section CI: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section CJ: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section CK: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section CL: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section CM: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section CN: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section CO: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section CP: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section CQ: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section CR: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section CS: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section CT: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section CU: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section CV: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section CW: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section CX: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section CY: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section CZ: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section DA: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section DB: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section DC: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section DD: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section DE: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section DF: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section DG: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section DH: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section DI: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section DJ: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section DK: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section DL: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section DM: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section DN: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section DO: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section DP: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section DQ: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section DR: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section DS: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section DT: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section DU: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section DV: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section DW: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section DX: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section DY: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section DZ: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section EA: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section EB: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section EC: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section ED: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section EE: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section EF: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section EG: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section EH: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section EI: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section EJ: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section EK: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section EL: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section EM: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section EN: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section EO: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section EP: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section EQ: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section ER: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section ES: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section ET: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section EU: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section EV: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section EW: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section EX: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section EY: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section EZ: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section FA: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section FB: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section FC: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section FD: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section FE: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section FF: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section FG: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section FH: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section FI: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section FJ: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section FK: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section FL: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section FM: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section FN: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section FO: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section FP: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section FQ: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section FR: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section FS: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section FT: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section FU: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section FV: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section FW: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section FX: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section FY: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section FZ: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section GA: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section GB: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section GC: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section GD: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section GE: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section GF: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section GG: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section GH: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section GI: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section GJ: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section GK: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section GL: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section GM: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section GN: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section GO: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section GP: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section GQ: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section GR: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section GS: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section GT: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section GU: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section GV: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section GW: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section GX: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section GY: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section GZ: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section HA: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section HB: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section HC: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section HD: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section HE: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section HF: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section HG: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section HH: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section HI: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section HJ: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section HK: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section HL: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section HM: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section HN: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section HO: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section HP: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section HQ: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section HR: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section HS: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section HT: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section HU: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section HV: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section HW: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section HX: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section HY: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section HZ: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section IA: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section IB: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section IC: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section ID: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section IE: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section IF: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section IG: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section IH: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section II: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section IJ: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section IK: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section IL: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section IM: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section IN: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section IO: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section IP: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section IQ: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section IR: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section IS: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section IT: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section IU: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section IV: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section IW: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section IX: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section IY: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section IZ: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section JA: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section JB: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section JC: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section JD: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section JE: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section JF: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section JG: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section JH: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section JI: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section JJ: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section JK: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section JL: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section JM: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section JN: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section JO: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section JP: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section JQ: Hong Kong 12-0; Hong Kong 0-12. Section JR: Hong Kong 12

Stephen Slater explains why greater emphasis will be placed on speed than endurance in this year's Lombard RAC Rally

Four days of devil take the hindmost

AT EIGHT o'clock tomorrow morning, Pentti Airikkala will lead 180 competitors off the starting ramp at Harrogate to set in motion this year's Lombard RAC Rally, four days of competition spread over 1,800 miles that include 41 flat-out, timed special stages.

Airikkala, a 45-year-old Finn, won last year, narrowly beating Carlos Saliz, of Spain, after an astonishing duel in the closing stages. With a mere ten miles remaining, the four-wheel drive system of Saliz's Toyota succumbed to the pounding it had taken at speeds of up to 130mph on rough gravel tracks. With drive only to the front wheels, Saliz was forced to accept second place as Airikkala's Mitsubishi scored a surprise win.

At the start of last year's event, Airikkala was thought to have only an outside chance of victory; he was seeded No. 13 and was the second driver to Ari Vatanen in the Mitsubishi team, which was rallying a new and largely unproven car.

This year, Airikkala is starting from the top, carrying the coveted No. 1 on the side of his new car, an Autoglass-sponsored Ford Sierra Cosworth with the full might of the Ford factory team behind him. He has a strong chance of a repeat victory, though with six world

champions behind him in the top ten starters, the Finn faces the toughest of challenges.

Even before the strength of the field was known, this year's rally was set to be the hardest and fastest yet. A new format has cut a full day out of the schedule and a revised route will allow more competitive miles to take place on the timed special stages with less driving on public roads.

From Harrogate, the rally will initially run through the stately home stages, before moving to the forest tracks of north Yorkshire. These will be followed by routes through Northumberland, Cumbria and southern Scotland. This year's rally eschews its traditional section through Wales, although the RAC Motorsports Association, which organises the event, has promised that the route will return to Wales next year.

The rally also permits "pace notes", which are made in advance and allow the navigator to read the route ahead to the driver. Both this and the reduction of much of the night-time driving, which had been a feature of the event, has changed the emphasis from a test of endurance to a spectacular battle for speed on the slippery forest tracks.

Those who will benefit the most are the factory-supported teams.

There are 11 manufacturers involved in the event, with giants such as Ford, Toyota, Mitsubishi, Mazda and Lancia each entering up to four of their turbo-charged, 300-horsepower, four-wheel drive "supercars" which can be valued at up to £100,000 each.

To keep them running, each team will also employ up to 50 service crew members. They can descend on a stricken car in a remote location and replace major components such as gear boxes in a matter of minutes.

While drivers such as Airikkala and Malcolm Wilson in the factory Ford, Mike Bission in the Lancia, Saliz in his Toyota and Vatanen in his Mitsubishi are the spearheads of huge technical and financial operations, the determination and effort of the smaller teams and private entrants is just as great.

The Czechoslovakian Skoda team is aiming to win its class for the eighteenth time in 18 years. Daihatsu is looking for a repeat of its performance last year, when its 1,000cc Charade hatchback earned itself the nickname "the pocket rocket" by dominating its category and beating cars with engines of twice the size. Their battle for class honours is as determined as any at the head of the field.



Man in the cockpit: David Llewellyn, who will be among the leading British challengers in an event usually dominated by Scandinavians

Leading drivers and their machinery

Pentti Airikkala (Finland)

Ford Sierra Cosworth
Aged 45. The winner in 1989 at the wheel of a Mitsubishi, the Finn was snapped up this year by Ford to head their four-car team in the event. Having lived in Britain for almost 20 years, he claims that this year might bring a second win by a "Finnish" driver.

Carlos Saliz (Spain)

Toyota Celica GT4
Aged 28. The world champion, from Madrid, became the first non-Scandinavian to beat the Finns on their home ground when he won the 1,000cc Lancia Rally in August. Mechanical trouble cost him victory last year.

Juha Kankkunen (Finland)

Lancia Delta Integrale
Aged 31. Twice world champion, first with Peugeot in 1986 and again with Lancia in 1987 following a victory in the RAC Rally. He was runner-up in last year's event in a Toyota, but has returned to the Lancia camp.

Massimo Biasion (Italy)

Lancia Delta Integrale
Aged 32. Potentially the fastest driver in the field, Biasion was world

champion in 1986 and 1987 and has won 16 championship events. However, he has never before driven in a British rally and it remains to be seen whether his usual pace can be maintained in the Yorkshire forests.

Malcolm Wilson (GB)

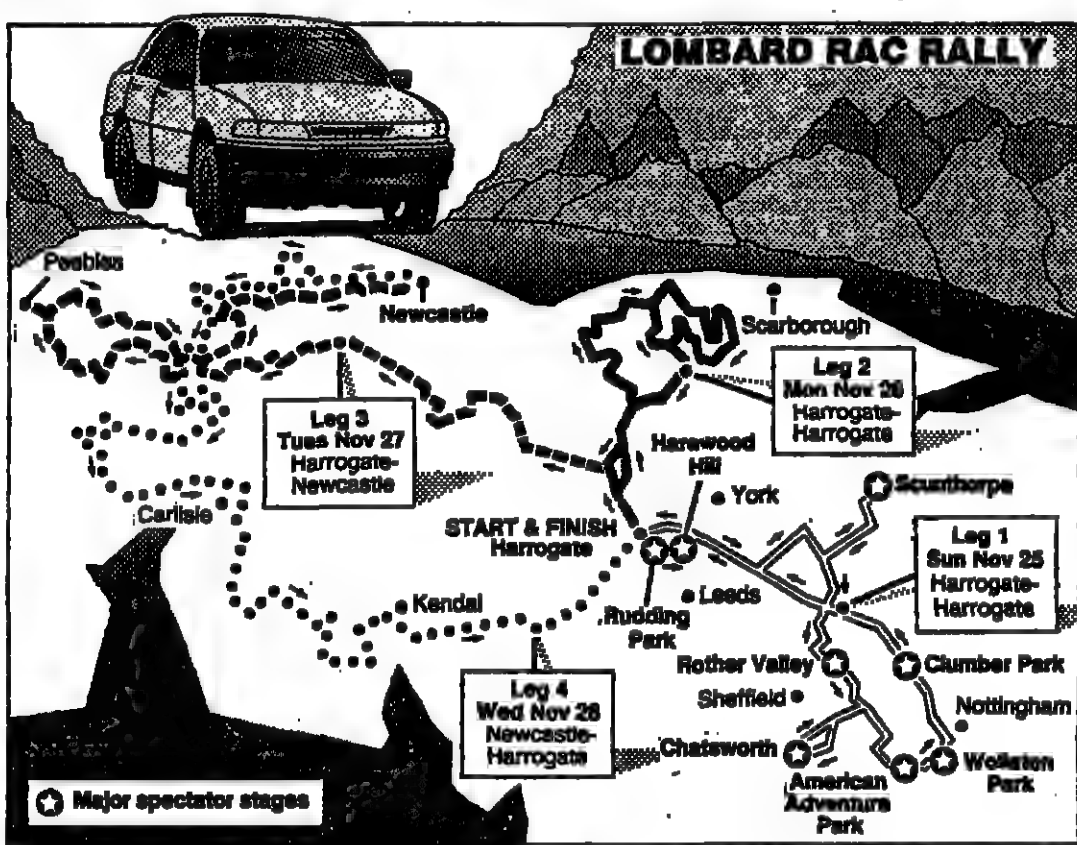
Ford Sierra Cosworth
Aged 34. Britain's highest seeded international rally driver, Wilson may become the first Briton to win the RAC Rally since Roger Clark took it in 1978. Last year, Wilson from Cumbria, took his two-wheel drive Astra to a fine team place.

Louise Atkin-Walker (GB)

Opel Cadet GSi
Aged 30. A stirring run of class successes has already clinched her the 1990 women's World Cup title and the RAC Rally. Atkin-Walker is understood to be one of the fastest drivers in the world in terms of overall honours, however, she will be struggling to stay on terms with the turbo-charged, four-wheel drive supercars.

David Llewellyn (GB)

Toyota Celica GT4
Aged 30. A former British Open rally champion, Llewellyn was one of the fastest runners in the early stages last year before engine problems forced him out.



When and where to share in the action

WHILE die-hard fans will travel to remote forests and walk for miles to reach favourite locations, the best opportunity to see the action is on the specially designed spectator stages tomorrow. These offer a parking, catering and commentary. Should you wish to visit stages later in the event, stout walking shoes, warm clothes and Ordnance Survey maps are strongly recommended.

TUESDAY (18.00): Rally start, Harrogate town centre (0.18 Rudding Park, Harrogate (first special stage)). 08.30: Harwood Hill (just south of Harrogate). 10.18: Scarborough (depart from 0.180 and 0.181). 11.45: Rother Valley (seven miles south of Harrogate). 12.30: Charnwood, 14.00: American Adventure (nine miles west of Harrogate). 14.30: Wetherby Park (two miles west of Harrogate). 15.00: Cusworth Park (four miles south of Harrogate). 16.00: Harrogate (depart from 0.181). 16.00: Cars return to Harrogate.

WEDNESDAY (06.00): Rally start, Harrogate town centre. 06.00: Harrogate (depart from 0.181). 06.00: Cars return to Harrogate. 07.30: Harrogate (depart from 0.181). 07.30: Cars return to Harrogate. 08.30: Harrogate (depart from 0.181). 08.30: Cars return to Harrogate. 09.30: Harrogate (depart from 0.181). 09.30: Cars return to Harrogate. 10.30: Harrogate (depart from 0.181). 10.30: Cars return to Harrogate. 11.30: Harrogate (depart from 0.181). 11.30: Cars return to Harrogate. 12.30: Harrogate (depart from 0.181). 12.30: Cars return to Harrogate. 13.30: Harrogate (depart from 0.181). 13.30: Cars return to Harrogate. 14.30: Harrogate (depart from 0.181). 14.30: Cars return to Harrogate. 15.30: Harrogate (depart from 0.181). 15.30: Cars return to Harrogate. 16.30: Harrogate (depart from 0.181). 16.30: Cars return to Harrogate. 17.30: Harrogate (depart from 0.181). 17.30: Cars return to Harrogate. 18.30: Harrogate (depart from 0.181). 18.30: Cars return to Harrogate. 19.30: Harrogate (depart from 0.181). 19.30: Cars return to Harrogate. 20.30: Harrogate (depart from 0.181). 20.30: Cars return to Harrogate. 21.30: Harrogate (depart from 0.181). 21.30: Cars return to Harrogate. 22.30: Harrogate (depart from 0.181). 22.30: Cars return to Harrogate. 23.30: Harrogate (depart from 0.181). 23.30: Cars return to Harrogate. 24.30: Harrogate (depart from 0.181). 24.30: Cars return to Harrogate.

GUIDE TO THE WEEKEND FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

Barclays League

First division

Cowen v Leeds (all ticket)

Darby v Nottm Forest (all ticket)

Liverpool v Man City (all ticket)

Luton v Aston Villa

QPR v Arsenal

Sheff Wed v Sunderland

Southampton v Celtic (all ticket)

Tottenham v Norwich

Wimbledon v Everton

FA VASE: Second round: Brighton Town v Blackpool (free); Horden City v Great Harwood Harrogate RA v Chester

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

Second division

Barnsley v Wolves

Brighton v Millwall

Cardiff v Oxford (all ticket)

Crewe v Portsmouth

Exeter v Bristol City

Newcastle v West Ham

Northampton v Luton

Oxford v Middlesbrough

Plymouth v West Ham

Sheff Wed v Sunderland

Southampton v Celtic (all ticket)

Tottenham v Norwich

Wimbledon v Everton

FA VASE: Second round: Brighton Town v Blackpool (free); Horden City v Great Harwood Harrogate RA v Chester

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

Third division

Birmingham v Bournemouth

Bury v Stoke (all ticket)

Cardiff v Oxford (all ticket)

Crewe v Portsmouth

Exeter v Bristol City

Newcastle v West Ham

Northampton v Luton

Oxford v Middlesbrough

Plymouth v West Ham

Sheff Wed v Sunderland

Southampton v Celtic (all ticket)

Tottenham v Norwich

Wimbledon v Everton

FA VASE: Second round: Brighton Town v Blackpool (free); Horden City v Great Harwood Harrogate RA v Chester

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

St. Albans v Luton; South Shields v Luton; Luton v South Shields; Luton v South Shields

</

RUGBY UNION

Injury-hit Leicester give young Johnson cup chance at Bath

By DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

LEICESTER'S cup has run over in times past, but yesterday it was overflowing with the eve of their third-round Pilkington Cup tie with Bath. The holders, having determined to play a broader game than they achieved in the league match with Bath last week, they strike force was eliminated when Rory Underwood went down with influenza and Barry Evans withdrew with a damaged Achilles tendon.

It is no disrespect to their replacements, Peter Sandford and Andy Key, to suggest that they may not be able to fill adequately the boots of the departed England wings. How Leicester must wish they could whistle up Tony Underwood from Cambridge University, but, so close to the university match, the younger Underwood must commit himself to student rugby.

As if that were not enough, Alex Gissing, the lock who damaged ankle ligaments in the 9-3 defeat last week, also withdrew. His replacement is a player that Leicester have been waiting with interest to see, Martin Johnson, an England school international, who has spent the past two seasons in New Zealand, where he played not only for King Country (which is Colin Meads' country) in the national championship, but New Zealand's under-21 side.

Leicester's choice was between Johnson and the experienced Malcolm Foulkes. Arnold, and they have made a positive decision in going for the younger man — and one of whom Bath will know little — though they might have preferred him to resume his senior career in a less significant match. Johnson's last first-team appearance was in April 1989 — against Bath, when both clubs fielded weakened teams and Leicester won.

The mood of the Leicester players in the weeks of the league defeat was upbeat, knowing that a cup exit at this early juncture will cast a blight on their season and knowing, too, that there was another match plan for them to follow further away from the Bath pack. That, though, is no longer true: suddenly their back division looks ordinary unless they can find a way of working Lily through the middle.

Bath will not confirm their XV before today, but John Bamsey, of their injured trio, is the least likely to play. He left the field at Leicester with a calf injury and has not trained this week; there are various permutations which could be used to fill the centre should he pull out. Stuart Barnes and

John Hall have aches and pains, but it will be a surprise if they miss this game.

"Leicester are one of those teams who can rise to the challenge," Barnes said, "but I haven't been on the losing side in a cup match with Bath for six years and I am not going to start now. Leicester have got to come out and play and we believe we can keep them away from our line for long enough."

If Leicester's prospects have been dimmed, Spartans must surely be non-existent. The Gloucester junior club travel to Orell, who have scored 174 points without reply in their three most recent games, against Northampton, Liverpool St Helens and Newcastle Gosford. Spartans have been practising scrummaging against Gloucester, but by the time Orell have finished with them they will have had as close an acquaintance with the soil as the Red Aris after whom they are nicknamed.

The cup creates a couple of firsts today. Rugby (born 1873) have never played London Welsh (1885), while Harrogate (1871) have managed to avoid Northampton (1880). Ironically, this was the first season that the Yorkshiremen have negotiated a fixture with Northampton; they meet again in three weeks.

PILKINGTON CUP TEAM NEWS

Bristol v Waterloo

Bristol opt for Tanton at stand-off and Duggan returns to the wing against a Waterloo side unchanged from that which beat Plymouth Albion in the league.

Coventry v Rosslyn Park

Shaw makes his cup debut at full back for Coventry who also field McKenzie (wing), Hyde (lock) and Hickey (back row). Rosslyn Park retain the XV that they served them well in the league.

Gloucester v Broughton P

Gloucester have recovered from a leg injury and plays on Gloucester's wing Gardner remained at scrum half. Park return to the field with Knowles, the captain, at full back.

London Irish v Sale

The Irish have Hurrell at centre and recall Preston to the back row and of Douglas, Sale fielding Powell on the wing with Whitcombe replacing Burrell at prop.

H Wycombe v Moseley

Wycombe and Tipton will give substance to High Wycombe's back division. Moseley play Stockbury (wing) for the absent Kennell and bring in Pedmon at lock.

Newcastle v Blackheath

Winham replaces Costes on Newcastle Gosford's wing and Davidson replaces the injured Smith at No. 8. Scott replaces the injured captain in Blackheath's centre.

Nottingham v L Scottish

Nottingham's international return, but Jones and Hartley are injured at No. 8. Scottish have replaced the XV that they served them well in the league.

Orell v Spartans

Although returns to Orell's centre, but Spartans are without Bobby Fowler, their injured captain and flanker. Murray and Grogan play in the back row and Watling at lock.

Saracens v Hartlepool R

Saracens play Langley at No. 8 for the injured Chris Smith. Hartlepool replace Rowlands in Rowlands' second row.

West Hartlepool v Wasps

Armstrong plays in the centre for West Hartlepool but Dixon is out of the first row due to a pulled leg. Mitchell replacing him. Pinnegar replaces O'Leary (on hospital duty) at lock for Wasps.

Rugby v London Welsh

Rugby are at strength with Brain (hooker), Jenkins (No. 8) and Mark R Ellis (flanker) returning to the pack. Jeremy Evans, the Welsh captain, is injured so Lee Thomas comes in with Lumby at blind side.

Sheffield v Exeter

Sheffield introduce Chalkley at hooker, alongside the returning Carter, but have lost Harris. Exeter, A. Davies, who has been injured so Lee Thomas comes in with Lumby at blind side.

Harrogate v N'hampton

Harrogate have Woodhouse back to prop and Baker plays at No. 8. Packman returns to Northampton's wing and Pack to the pack, but Rowlands is injured so Lee Thomas comes in with Lumby at blind side.

Richmond v L'pool St H

Richmond at hooker with Foster, Williams and Lamb returning to the pack. Robson (scrum half) plays his first row due to a pulled leg. Mitchell replacing him. Pinnegar replaces O'Leary (on hospital duty) at lock for Wasps.

James and Boxall are warned for slow play in the World Cup of Golf

England hold on to lead

From PATRICIA DAVIES
IN ORLANDO

ENGLAND were warned for slow play on the third day of the World Cup of Golf, at Grand Cypress here yesterday. Richard Boxall and Mark James, the tournament leaders, and José Rivero and Miguel Ángel Jiménez, their Spanish playing partners, received an official warning from John Farrow, of the PGA European Tour, perched on his buggy behind the fifth green, with stopwatch and time sheet to hand.

Rivero took an unacceptable time to decide on his club for the second shot to the difficult 451-yard hole, and by the time they had all putted out they were seven minutes behind their allotted schedule.

The World Cup, one of the slowest forms of golf known to humanity, allows 17 minutes per hole or five hours and six minutes per round, but 5% and six-hour rounds are normal. Earlier this week, the players demanded they play in fourballs, with their team-mate, overruling an official decision to play in twos, to speed up play.

Ironically, James was one of those in favour of the change.

Card of the course						
Hole	Yds	Par	Score	Yds	Par	Score
1	363	4	10	282	4	10
2	510	5	11	513	5	11
3	339	4	12	158	3	12
4	185	3	13	393	4	13
5	451	4	14	364	4	14
6	591	5	16	559	5	16
7	360	4	16	416	4	16
8	182	3	17	183	3	17
9	435	4	18	435	4	18
Out	3,410	35	In	3,361	35	
Total yardage: 6,771						

and did not support the likes of Ian Woosnam and Sam Torrance, who lobbied successfully for the traditional fourball format.

Slow play apart, England consolidated their overnight lead without being too spectacular. Twelve under par at the start, they reached the turn on 13 under. They dropped a shot at the treacherous 9th, which claimed any number of distinguished victims in the second round, when Boxall hit his second shot into the water. James missed from six feet for a birdie, to go out in 33, one under par, having had a birdie four at the 2nd. Boxall had had a birdie two at the 5th.

Spain, 12 under after a Jiménez birdie at the first, crashed from grace on the fourth, dropping two shots, with two more going at the faithful 5th. By the time they reached the halfway stage they had slipped to eight under.

At this stage the best golf of the day was coming from Wales, in the potent form of Ian Woosnam and Mark Mouldand, who prepared by staying up until three in the morning (at least), playing the piece, and having such unconventional training, the Welsh had moved from three under par to nine under after nine holes and found themselves very much back in contention.

Spain, playing second, were still with the United States side of Payne Stewart and Jodie Mould. Mouldand, very much the junior partner, had his side's first birdie, when he holed from six feet for a four at the 2nd. They both had good chances at the 3rd, but missed both times between them, before returning to birdie action at the 5th.



Dancing in slow time: Boxall, one half of a duo which did not please the judges

slotting home a three-footer. Their fourth birdie in three holes came from Mouldand, the Russ Conway of the fairways, when he hit his second to 18 inches at the 7th.

The Woosnam driver was a trifle out at the 9th, however. He fired it so far right that it missed all the trouble, in the shape of unfurled hillocks, and ended up in prime position on the 10th fairway. Much peering and calculating later, Europe's No. 1 hit a four-iron, which did not please him from the moment he made contact, into the bunker to the right of the green. His sand shot hit the pin, but still ran ten feet past, and he did well to save par with a putt that did not dare stay out.

Leading second round scores: 276: England (M James, 68, 71; R Boxall, 68, 69); Spain (J P Riera, 68, 67; M Jiménez, 68, 73); 278: United States (P Stewart, 68, 68; J Mould, 68, 72); 281: Canada (D Barr, 68, 70; R Ogle, 70, 70); Denmark (S Timmer, 71, 70; A Sorenson, 67, 67); Argentina (L Carbonetti, 69, 71); M Gullerud, 68, 73.

282: Germany (B Lorenz, 71, 71; T Gleason, 70, 71); 284: Ireland (R Raftery, 72, 68; D Feherty, 70, 73); Scotland (S Tennant, 68, 75; D Brown, 68, 73); 285: Wales (I Woosnam, 72, 68; M Mouldand, 68, 70); 286: Australia (P Sorey, 68, 71); 287: Switzerland (P Gullerud, 68, 73); 288: New Zealand (P Mould, 68, 73; S Turner, 74, 73); Sweden (A Larsson, 67, 71; M Persson, 74, 70).

Leading individual scores: 136: A Sorenson (Den), 67, 67; 138: J P Riera (Esp), 68, 67; 137: R Boxall (Eng), 68, 69; P Stewart (USA), 68, 68; 138: M Mouldand (Wales), 68, 68; 139: J Mould (Wales), 68, 71; 139: P Sorey (Aus), 68, 71; D Barr (Can), 68, 70; M James (Eng), 68, 71; 140: G Gullerud (Arg), 68, 71; D Brown (Ire), 68, 71.

Chance for Faldo to capture an audience

From JOHN BALLANTINE
IN PALM SPRINGS
CALIFORNIA

NICK Faldo plays the first nine holes of the 18-hole skins game against Jack Nicklaus, Curtis Strange and Greg Norman in a light-hearted and confident mood over Pete Dye's difficult 7,271-yard PGA West course here today.

Faldo shrewdly understands, however, that although this gambling extravaganza is in no way remotely comparable to his triumphs earlier this season in the Open at St Andrews and the Masters, it would enhance his reputation immensely at a plebian level to do well and perhaps even to win.

Millions will watch on television as the players try to emulate Nicklaus's \$240,000 ten-foot birdie putt at the 18th in 1984 or Lee Trevino's "ace" at the venerable 17th in 1987, worth \$175,000.

"Events like this are good for golf," Faldo said. "In 72-hole championships we concentrate hard. Here, we can loosen up yet give each other a hard time until the going gets serious. Usually, that happens when only two players are left in a hole."

The six holes are worth \$15,000 each, the next six \$25,000 and the last six \$35,000. A hole must be won outright, otherwise the money is added on to the next "pot".

Faldo was amused by the course at first sight. "It's supposed to be the toughest out here and quite a crazy layout, but we shall see what happens. Nine times out of ten in a skins the guy who plays best won't win the most. Luck and good timing are the key factors."

Santa Ana winds here are producing temperatures over 80C and the course is a fearful one with huge bunkers and timber-fronted lakes.

Nick Faldo has been voted Sportsman of the Year by the Sports Writers' Association of Great Britain.

SYDNEY: Brett Ogle, of Australia, held his nerve in testing, windy conditions to seize a one-shot halfway lead in the Australian PGA tournament here yesterday (Reuters reports). Ogle shot a one-under-par 70 for a total of 135 ahead of the 1988 winner and a compatriot, Wayne Grady.

"It used to be very difficult to control my nerves, but I've learnt how to do that," Ogle said. "The older I'm getting, the wiser I'm getting and I'm not worried about what the press says any more."

Ogle carded four birdies and two bogeys in a front nine of 33. LEADERS: second round scores: 276: England (M James, 68, 71; R Boxall, 68, 69); Spain (J P Riera, 68, 67; M Jiménez, 68, 73); 278: United States (P Stewart, 68, 68; J Mould, 68, 72); 281: Canada (D Barr, 68, 70; R Ogle, 70, 70); Denmark (S Timmer, 71, 70; A Sorenson, 67, 67); Argentina (L Carbonetti, 69, 71); M Gullerud, 68, 73.

282: Germany (B Lorenz, 71, 71; T Gleason, 70, 71); 284: Ireland (R Raftery, 72, 68; D Feherty, 70, 73); Scotland (S Tennant, 68, 75; D Brown, 68, 73); 285: Wales (I Woosnam, 72, 68; M Mouldand, 68, 70); 286: Australia (P Sorey, 68, 71); 287: Switzerland (P Gullerud, 68, 73); 288: New Zealand (P Mould, 68, 73; S Turner, 74, 73); Sweden (A Larsson, 67, 71; M Persson, 74, 70).

Leading individual scores: 136: A Sorenson (Den), 67, 67; 138: J P Riera (Esp), 68, 67; 137: R Boxall (Eng), 68, 69; P Stewart (USA), 68, 68; 138: M Mouldand (Wales), 68, 68; 139: J Mould (Wales), 68, 71; 139: P Sorey (Aus), 68, 71; D Barr (Can), 68, 70; M James (Eng), 68, 71; 140: G Gullerud (Arg), 68, 71; D Brown (Ire), 68, 71.

Cambridge include Bannerman

WITH only two matches remaining before the university match, the Cambridge and Oxford teams are taking shape (David Hands writes). Cambridge favour Bannerman, late Scottish Universities, at hooker and Griffin, an Irish Universities representative, at prop in today's game against Loughborough Students at Grange Road.

This may leave no room for the two student internationals, Locke and Wareham (both of whom have suffered injury this term) at Twickenham on December 11 since Holmes, the Cambridge captain, will hope to field an unchanged side against Steele-Bodger's XV on Wednesday. Hastings, the Scotland full back, has ruled himself out of that match because of damaged ankle ligaments.

Oxford, who play Scottish Universities in Edinburgh on Monday, will have Hurrell, the American winger, in their XV and Taylor, the former Loughborough captain, has recovered from an elbow injury to play flanker.

Old Paulines, 120 years old, celebrate the 25th anniversary of their first match against Old Merchant Taylors at Thames Ditton today. OMT won the first game in 1890 and had tended to hold the upper hand since.

Vladimir Negodin, the captain of the Soviet Union B team who was sent off at Bourne-mouth on Thursday during the 25-23 defeat by Dorset and Wills, has been banned from playing in the final game of their tour, against Gloucestershire at Cheltenham tomorrow.

Injuries take their toll on Welsh holders

DUBAI — Toulouse were the surprise winners of the Emirates Dubai international sevens here yesterday (Owen Jenkins writes). They beat Crawshays 22-10. The Welsh, the holders, 22-10. The French were stronger and pacier than the Welsh, who were down to seven as a result of injuries. They won by three goals and a try to a goal and a try.

Toulouse raced to an 18-0 lead, after tries from Pebey, Swadek and Janczek, while Crawshays reduced the Richard with a try which was converted by Alan Harnes. Toulouse added another try from Pebey before Wintou grabbed a late consolation score. RESULTS: Crawshays v Toulouse 30-38; Malindi Old Boys v Crawshays 18-30; Hong Kong v Crawshays 18-30; South Africa v Crawshays 20-30; Crawshays v Crawshays 22-30; Crawshays v Crawshays 22-30.

Neath's regulars back to the fray

GERALD DAVIES

WITH seven matches of the Heineken League already completed, the competition enters a critical period for the premier division teams. To avoid a congestion of fixtures in the new year, when the international season begins and the cup competition continues to descend, the majority of premier division fixtures will be over by the end of December.

There are four matches in the next six weeks, it would take the first three months to accommodate the same number at the beginning of next year.

Neath, who have been forced by injuries to dig deep into their reserves of players, are glad to see some of their return today. Chris Bridges resumes his duties at scrum half against Pontypool after missing the past three games because of an elbow injury, and Martyn Morris returns to the back row after five weeks off with damaged rib cartilage.

Gareth Llewellyn and Andrew Kembery, the Welsh squad locks, are back in the team, too. Llewellyn had not fully recovered from his hip operation when he had his first game of the season last week and had to come off. Kembery has now recovered from a perforated eardrum.

Of no small interest at Gwent will be the form of Scott Gibbs, who has shot into prominence in the midfield for Neath and is included in the Welsh squad. Steele Lewis, for Pontypool, is also a dynamic presence and has been chosen to play for Wales B. The Netherlands next month. Lewis's style of running — direct and at speed — against Swansea and Pontypool earlier in the season — was not dissimilar to that of Craig Innes. Though, as yet, without the New Zealanders' polish, such penetration is a desperate Welsh requirement.

Absence of players is a problem at Pontypool, too, where Cardiff are the visitors. Dean Oswald, the New Zealander who has proved to be such an influential player in the back row for them, has had a six-week suspension imposed on him for stamping on Richie Donovan in what was thought to be a match against Cross Keys.

A shoulder injury keeps Neil Jones out of the Pontypool team and they will also be without Richard Goodey, who may have to undergo a knee cartilage operation. Absence of a different kind means that they will be keeping their fingers crossed that Ciri Jonathan, their scrum half, will return in time this morning from the Dubai sevens. Pontypool Park is no bad hunting ground for Cardiff over the years as they showed by winning there 21-13 last season.

Llanelli had a nice run of late, but matches against Newbridge are never as clear cut as they might at first appear. Indeed, Newbridge were audacious enough to seal a victory at Stradey Park last season, a feat which very few teams ever get to enjoy. Steve Feeley, their scrum half, scored three tries in their 24-14 win.

Bridgend should hold firm to their second place in the division as they visit the hapless Aberdare, who have not won a match since September and have parted company with Richard Barrell, their coach. Perhaps their 6-0 home victory last season against Bridgend might serve as their inspiration today.

By GEORGE ACE

Against NIFC and CYMS, Bangor came from interval deficits to record resounding wins. Today, they face a very confident Old Wesley side, who, like Bangor, have been denied North and CYMS.

Michael Gisham, the former NIFC hooker, will play his first competitive game in two years, for Malone against St. Mary's College at Clifton Park.

David Irwin, who leads Insitons against the league leaders, 'Constitution', at Slane Park, is poised for a recall to the Ulster team that meets Leicester at Ravenhill next Saturday, as is his club colleague, Peter Russell. The team will be selected tomorrow.

SNOOKER

Davis not surprised at shocks

By STEVE ACTESON

THE Stormont United Kingdom championship resumes at the Guild Hall, Preston today after a two-day break for the venue to be stripped down from night to two tables and for the installation of television cameras.

The game's avid followers will not see many familiar names in the second most important tournament of all. But they will be given a glimpse of the future.

Several players in the world's top 16 failed to reach the fifth round: Doug Mountjoy, the 1988 winner, Terry Griffiths, who triumphed in 1982, Mike Hallett, Steve James, Dennis Taylor, Tony Meo, Dean Reynolds, John Virgo, Martin Clark and Alain Robidou.

Instead, the last 16 at Preston includes the world's top four players — Stephen Hendry, Steve Davis, John Parrott and Jimmy White — and a mixture of dangerous newcomers such as James Wattana, of Thailand, who plays White tomorrow, and Nigel Bond, along with two promising first-season professionals, Alan McManus, of Scotland, and Jon Birch, of England, the 1989 world amateur championship runner-up.

Davis is not surprised that so many of the top seeds have been scattered so early. "It is very unfair to say the top 16 is special anymore," he said. "Once upon a time you could play anyone outside the top 16 and think you had a bad day, but not now."

There was also a time when, barring a couple of shocks, you could guarantee most of the 16 would get through here because of the longer matches, but the whole game is levelling out and now you should say the top 32 are all special and give the officials a hard time.

"People like Jon Birch and Alan McManus struggled to get into the professional game, but they were getting plenty of match experience and it all helped to harden them up. Now that they've got their chance as professionals, they have grabbed it, they aren't frightened at all."

Hendry, the world champion, today plays Neal Foulds, and Tony Knowles tackles Wayne Jones for a place in the quarter-finals.

QUARTER-FINALS (best of 17 frames, 100 and 75 each): Today: S Hendry (Scot) v N Foulds (Eng); A Knowles (Wales) v J Jones (Wales); Tomorrow: J Wattana (Thai) v J White (Eng); W Thomas (Eng) v S Davis (Eng).

© The World Professional Billiards and Snooker Association, is expected to give the official approval to the Sky World Masters following the withdrawal of Alex Higgins.

THE SUNDAY TIMES

WIN UP TO £2000 A WEEK WITH

THE SUNDAY TIMES

TEST SELECTOR

If you missed your Test Selector card last week, request one by ringing 071-867 0404.

THE BATTLE OF THE ASHES is on — and you can start playing tomorrow in The Sunday Times, with the exciting new Test Selector game.

Your personal Test Selector card — you can request one by phone if you missed it last week — features a special Eleven of legendary cricketers: could they be the ultimate Ashes Eleven?

Just compare the team on your card with the experts' choice and if they match you could be £2000 better off!

Play Test Selector and you're in the running for £2000 each week for the next twelve weeks!

START PLAYING TOMORROW

Vision raises doubt but Jackson has the knockout punch

By SRUKUMAR SEN
BOXING CORRESPONDENT
RENAISSANCE, SPAIN

HEROL Graham faces the most important contest of his career when he meets Julian Jackson, of the Virgin Islands, for the vacant World Boxing Council middleweight title at the Torrequebrada Hotel here tonight.

Defeat could cost him any chance of lifting the one title that has eluded him in his 12-year career. At the age of 31 he may not be able to afford a long and debilitating wait for his next chance.

But if he remembers how Charlie Magri, Frank Bruno and George Foreman came back from the depths of despair, Magri to lift the world title and the other two for lucrative world challenges, he will know that there need be no such thing as a last time in boxing and he should enter the ring with a lighter heart.

Not that Graham is about to be defeated, more likely the Sheffield man will return home with the world title. But the boxer who likes the freedom of the ring for his moves will know freedom outside need not be curtailed were he to lose.

Paradoxically, this could turn out to be an easier challenge than the one against Mike McCullum in 1989 at the Albert Hall, Jackson had an operation for detached retinas in 1989 and his vision is not perfect. While admitting that he is near-sighted, he claims that his boxing has not been affected. But there must be serious doubts if the British Boxing Board of Control, which gave Gary Mason back

Tale of the tape

Graham	Age	Height	Weight	Stance	Records
31	31	5ft 11in	145lb	Orthodox	30-11-1
5ft 11in	5ft 11in	5ft 11in	145lb	Orthodox	30-11-1
145lb	145lb	145lb	145lb	Orthodox	30-11-1
Orthodox	Orthodox	Orthodox	Orthodox	Orthodox	30-11-1
30-11-1	30-11-1	30-11-1	30-11-1	30-11-1	30-11-1

Graham won 40 contests (22 inside the distance), two draws. Jackson won 40 contests (22 inside the distance), one draw.

his licence after a retina operation, refused to allow Jackson to box in Britain. Also, Jackson has had only 14 rounds in four contests since he moved up from light-middleweight to the heavier division after his operation. He disposed of all four inside the distance, but they were specially picked for him.

Whereas the light-middleweight Jackson, who knocked out Francisco de Jesus in eight rounds in Las Vegas, was able to take the fight to his opponents, the post-operation and heavier Jackson has tended to hold back and capitalise on unforced errors by his opponents. It has almost seemed that there is a range of vision beyond which he cannot operate successfully.

However, he is still dangerous and has the reputation of being able to deliver the clearest of knockouts. Should he catch Graham, the Englishman would have the utmost difficulty in staying on his feet. Graham has never been caught solidly by any of his 45 opponents, and should Jackson break that rule, the effect,

as the vodka advertisement says, could be shattering.

Graham has been defeated only twice in his career: by Sumbu Kalambay and McCullum. But both defeats should be discounted. The boxer's mental state was not at its best for those bouts.

When defending his European title against Kalambay, Graham's defensive style had been changed to an aggressive one by Eddie Shaw in B. J. Eastwood's Belfast gym. Shaw said then: "Graham has turned defensive boxing into a poetic art, but the trouble is no one ever knocked anybody out with a poem." Graham was unhappy being a Barry McGuigan and struggled as he finished the points loser.

Against McCullum, Graham was not only in the middle of a contractual dispute with Eastwood but had his manager in his corner as well. He was beaten by just one point, a deduction for a minor infringement.

Graham can take comfort from the fact that four years ago McCullum stopped Jackson in two rounds, but the Englishman must guard against the big punch and a tendency to rough-housing. He must keep his "limbo dancing" down to the minimum, his chin well tucked in and be content to use his footwork to reach advantage to pick off Jackson from a distance.

"Rough-housing" of the sort that had Rod Douglas, of Bow, in confusion in the British title bout at Wembley will not be tolerated by Joe Guerra, the Mexican referee, and could cost Graham crucial penalty points.

Armchair view of men going off the straight and easy

By KEN LAWRENCE

NOW that the bickering Formula One drivers have gone into their winter hibernation, testing, or discussing ever more millions in new contracts, the real drivers take centre stage for a few days.

I refer of course to the rally men. Their names hardly trip off the tongue like Prost and Senna, Mansell and Piquet, but there is a special about men like Sainz and Salonen, Kankkunen and Biondini. Few Formula One drivers try rallying; Derek Bell, of Le Mans fame, had a go and Derek Warwick is competing this year; the only ones who do it well. Indeed, there are those within motorsport who look with some contempt upon the pampered, overpaid world of Formula One.

SPORT ON TELEVISION THE WEEK IN VIEW

Anyone can drive in a relatively straight line, argue these. But doing a 90° turn down a forest track in the wet and the dark or 120 mph on flint stone paths down which sensible mountaineers would rope themselves together and you may get the same perspective of the rally drivers' skill and courage.

You can watch them go from tomorrow until Wednesday in the most famed and respected event of them all, the Lombard

RAC Rally, which can be seen daily on Eurosport and Screensport (both of whom have four-hour pre-race tonight), BSB and (on Wednesday) the Sportsnight and Thursday's Top Gear on BBC.

Tomorrow's 360 miles, comprising eight special stages, are merely the scene setters in pastoral spots like Chatsworth and less pastoral ones like British Steel at Southorpe. They are an appetizer to the 1,380 hairy, hectic and often horrific miles that are the RAC. Around 100,000 people will pay to watch from special vantage points; up to a million and a half bystanders, it is estimated, will see these cars flash by, and over 26 million viewers on mainland Europe will be looking in on television.

This year's world championship is already won (the only thing to be settled as they set off from Harrogate tomorrow is whether Gustavo Trelles or Timo Salonen will win the title for production cars), but winning the RAC in itself counts for a great deal. After all, the world championship is 17 years old whereas the RAC was first run in 1957.

One hundred and eighty cars compete (not necessarily for all four days, of course; they do not all miss all the trees) in what is probably the highest quality field that has ever contested a single event. There are 16 FIA "seeds" driving, men who have come first, second or third in a world rally event in the past two years or can claim to be a European champion. There are six world champions competing — Mika Salonen, Carlos Sainz, Juha Kankkunen, Timo Salonen, Hannu Mikkola and Ari Vatanen.

Last year's Lombard winner, Pentti Aikila, is entered again, but without 100 per cent expectancy. This time he is in a Sierra RS Cosworth 4 x 4; after ten years or so in the wilderness, Ford are back with a real commitment to rallying.

JUDO

Intriguing match-ups add to event's drama

By NICOLAS SOAMES

THE judo prize-fight comes to Britain today with thousands of pounds as the main attraction of the Fox's masters, at the Molineux Centre, in Wolverhampton. The normal seven weight categories have been reduced to four: lightweight (under 65kg), middleweight (under 78kg), heavyweight (under 95kg) and open.

This was partly dictated by money. Although a domestic competition, the prize-money matches the amount raised for one of the leading international events, the Konic Cup, held in Paris earlier this month. But with four categories, the medal-winners will gain more £1,500, £1,000, £500 and £250 for first to fourth respectively.

Fewer categories will add to the drama. What will happen, for example, when Denzjo White, the middleweight winner in Paris, meets Ray Stevens, the light-heavyweight bronze medal winner? Or when David Southby, the Commonwealth Games light-middleweight champion, meets Roy Stone, the Games lightweight champion? Or when Elwis Gordon, 14 kilos of power, meets the speed

and reflexes of Kerrith Brown in the open category? All this makes a possible meeting between Brown and Southby, the two main contenders for the light-middleweight spot, almost an additional attraction. The mastermind behind the Fox's masters is Malcolm Abbotts, the Wolverhampton Judo Club fourth dan coach, who developed the strong Midlands group of fighters.

Abbotts said: "Judo is definitely losing out to other sports which attract more attention and publicity. All I am trying to do is help judo progress in the modern world."

There is irony in the fact that this milestone event comes from a man who is still formally banned from official contact with the national squad. Kerrith Brown has served his two years for taking dummies at the Seoul Olympics, but Abbotts, as his coach, received an indefinite ban from the British Judo Association.

"I don't think about it, I just carry on," Abbotts said. "All I know is that if we don't introduce new ideas to judo, we will go under."

CYCLING

Mud warm-up for Baker at Sutton Park

DAVID Baker, the national cycle-cross champion, unborn in his last eight races, has an important international warm-up ride this afternoon before defending his four-point lead in the second round of the National Trophy series at Wolverhampton tomorrow (Peter Bryan will be the main rival).

Today, Baker tackles a course that promises to be hard in the City of Birmingham Nations Cup (part of the European Challenge) at Sutton Park. The competition's future appears to be in doubt; Rome hosted the first round, Birmingham has today's event, but the remaining dates have still to be confirmed.

Three-man squads from Belgium, Germany, France and Switzerland will be meeting Britain's best, but the race is essentially a team event for the amateur entry Baker says he is not worried about today's course, where such will generally allow good drainage. The organiser, Keith Edwards, thinks differently and anticipates that the mud and obstacles will turn riders into runners six times a lap.

Richard Evans meets connections of talented US challenger for Hennessy

Von Csadek's reckoning day

IF SUCCESS in the Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup depended solely on the considered opinions of respected trainers, jockeys and racing judges, Von Csadek's dozen rivals could be forgiven for staying in their boxes and not bothering to turn up at Newbury this afternoon.

The planists began before the US jumping star crossed the Atlantic in early August to join Henrietta Knight on the start of a fairytale mission with inevitable dreams of Cheltenham and Aintree glory.

Michael Dickinson, no less, rates the horse the best jumper by far to have emerged from America. Praise indeed, when you take into account the past Grand National performances of Jay Trump, Ben Nevis and, more recently, the unlucky Uncle Martin.

Earlier this month, Richard Dunwoody joined the ranks of the converted after witnessing at first hand Von Csadek's ability to quicken at the end of a race.

"I was very impressed with him at Worcester. I appeared to have beaten him on Over The Road and went a length and a half up after the last but he quickened very impressively and won quite easily. He might be top-class."

With the horse's early antepost price of 10-1 having been halved following heavy support, there is no shortage of public or professional confidence behind the American challenger for the Hennessy.

Shortly before two o'clock this afternoon, however, all the hype must be put on hold along with the dreams and grand designs. "Saturday will be the day of reckoning, won't it?" says Knight realistically.

Most certainly, and in more ways than one. The clash against top handicap chasers will also be a severe test of nerve and skill for Patrick Worrall, aged 18, whose father trained the horse before the duo left for England.

With less than 70 rides under rules to his credit, the teenager is being pitched in at the deep end. Standing 6ft 2in, he runs regularly and sticks to a strict protein diet to prevent his brawny frame gaining unwanted ounces. Even so he will do well to weigh in at 10st 10lb and put up a minimum of 5lb overweight.

Confident, but not brash; laid-back yet excited by the challenge as he takes a year off between school and going to the University of Virginia, Worrall had his first ride as a jockey on Von Csadek two years ago.

The combination has been almost invincible since, including a comfortable 20-length victory over Uncle Martin. The only major prize to elude their grasp was the Maryland Hunt Cup last season when the pair parted company in the strangest of fashions at the second last when 30 lengths clear.

Jockey was catapulted over the timber fence and horse followed a moment later. "God's hand came down and snatched that boy right off that horse," says his father, half jokingly.

Doug Worrall, a Baltimore attorney, bought Von Csadek as a three-year-old following a brief flat career. Now eight, the son of President is named after a minor Bohemian baron, a distant relative of the original owner, and is pronounced Von "Sayde". He is owned jointly by Worrall's wife, Margaret, and her uncle, Herb Sheppard.

Having decided to embark on the British adventure, the Worralls thought long and hard about who should be entrusted with their horse's



Close encounter: Patrick Worrall and his Hennessy Gold Cup partner Von Csadek come face to face

care. Henrietta Knight was an obvious choice.

She has always lived in the village of West Lockinge, set outside Wantage in a time-warped rural charm and tranquillity. Although only in her second season as a full-time trainer, the former biology teacher commands enormous respect and affection among her National Hunt colleagues. A strike-rate of almost 40 per cent this season is testimony to her skills.

She grew up with horses, going from the pony club to eventing, and opened a livery yard 16 years ago when she gave up teaching. "Tim Forster suggested I might break some horses in for him. I did that one summer and much preferred teaching horses to children."

Trainers were soon only too keen to rely on her eventing and showjumping knowledge to help National Hunt horses with jumping problems. Point-to-point successes followed thick and fast.

Yesterday's qualifier was the second three-horse race they have sponsored this season and Nicholson was quick to warn of the dangers of such lacklustre support. "It is disappointing when people don't support races like this one. If we want sponsors to race, we have got to support them where possible."

A bad back injury last April delayed James Osborne's return to riding until last September and he had recorded only one winner by the beginning of this month. But the Oliver Sherwood-trained jockey is now

back to his best and victory on Southern Buster in the Oxfordshire Novices' Chase brought his tally for the season to 16 victories.

Philip McEntee maintained a remarkable record in the Newbury Trade Stands Conditions Jockeys' Handicap. He brought Authority from last to first to record his second victory from just two rides this season.

The race was marred by an ugly incident a long way from the stands involving Pat Verling on True Loop and Pat Lawrence on Gold Haven. Verling, who finished third, was guided gently

of intentional interference by attempting to prevent Lawrence overruling on his inside. He was suspended for eight days from December 2 to 9.

Oh So Rucky, a useful handicapper on the Flat, earned a 33-1 quote for the Triumph Hurdle after a useful performance in the opening division of the Freshman's Novices' Hurdle. Holley was happy to coast along in mid division before challenging Great Mill for the lead at the last. The David Elsworth-trained three-year-old quickly put Evie Hadden between himself and the runner-up.

of intentional interference by attempting to prevent Lawrence overruling on his inside. He was suspended for eight days from December 2 to 9.

Oh So Rucky, a useful handicapper on the Flat, earned a 33-1 quote for the Triumph Hurdle after a useful performance in the opening division of the Freshman's Novices' Hurdle. Holley was happy to coast along in mid division before challenging Great Mill for the lead at the last. The David Elsworth-trained three-year-old quickly put Evie Hadden between himself and the runner-up.

of intentional interference by attempting to prevent Lawrence overruling on his inside. He was suspended for eight days from December 2 to 9.

Oh So Rucky, a useful handicapper on the Flat, earned a 33-1 quote for the Triumph Hurdle after a useful performance in the opening division of the Freshman's Novices' Hurdle. Holley was happy to coast along in mid division before challenging Great Mill for the lead at the last. The David Elsworth-trained three-year-old quickly put Evie Hadden between himself and the runner-up.

Ibn Bey's late fitness test for Japan Cup

By RICHARD EVANS

RICHARD Dunwoody reached the fastest half-century of his career at Newbury before being prompted David Nicholson to ask: "Have you ever seen a National Hunt jockey riding better?"

The stylish Ulsterman, now competing in his first season, is only four weeks behind the total of Peter Scudamore, who is sidelined until the spring. He oozes confidence everytime he steps into the saddle, never more so than in the Arlington Premier Series Chase.

riding in the Japan Cup for the first time.

The preparations of the likely favourite, Belmez and Carlos, in marked contrast, have been virtually trouble-free and they are both expected to make bold attempts to become only the second British-trained winner of the race, following Jupiter himself.

The New Zealand-trained mare Horicks was the first winner from Australia last year, and the Australian five-year-old Betor Loosen Up looks the one to beat after winning six group races in the last year. The American rider, Julie Krone, makes history by becoming the first woman to ride in Japan's premier race. She partners Phantom Breeze.

riding in the Japan Cup for the first time.

The preparations of the likely favourite, Belmez and Carlos, in marked contrast, have been virtually trouble-free and they are both expected to make bold attempts to become only the second British-trained winner of the race, following Jupiter himself.

The New Zealand-trained mare Horicks was the first winner from Australia last year, and the Australian five-year-old Betor Loosen Up looks the one to beat after winning six group races in the last year. The American rider, Julie Krone, makes history by becoming the first woman to ride in Japan's premier race. She partners Phantom Breeze.

MARKET RASEN

Selections

By MANDARIN

12.40 Briery Fille. 1.10 Laffadio. 1.40 Geoscar. 2.10 Indian Cruise. 3.15 Indian Cruise. 3.45 Sandy's Beacon.

Going good: good to firm patches (back straight)

12.40 HORNSCASTLE NOVICES HURDLE (22,613; 2m 11) (18 runners)

1 201 LE TEMPERANCE 15 (C) M. T. 4-11-7 M. W. 15-10-10
2 101 NICE MAN 7 (P) P. 5-11-2 P. 5-11-2
3 101 NICE MAN 7 (P) P. 5-11-2 P. 5-11-2
4 101 NICE MAN 7 (P) P. 5-11-2 P. 5-11-2
5 101 NICE MAN 7 (P) P. 5-11-2 P. 5-11-2
6 101 NICE MAN 7 (P) P. 5-11-2 P. 5-11-2
7 101 NICE MAN 7 (P) P. 5-11-2 P. 5-11-2
8 101 NICE MAN 7 (P) P. 5-11-2 P. 5-11-2
9 101 NICE MAN 7 (P) P. 5-11-2 P. 5-11-2
10 101 NICE MAN 7 (P) P. 5-11-2 P. 5-11-2
11 101 NICE MAN 7 (P) P. 5-11-2 P. 5-11-2
12 101 NICE MAN 7 (P) P. 5-11-2 P. 5-11-2

1.10 LINCOLN CLAIMING HURDLE (22,277; 2m 11) (14)

1 340 OUTSTANDING BILL 8 (P) J. 4-11-13 B. 4-11-13
2 101 THE GAMPOCKY 3 (P) L. 4-11-13 B. 4-11-13
3 340 OUTSTANDING BILL 8 (P) J. 4-11-13 B. 4-11-13
4 101 THE GAMPOCKY 3 (P) L. 4-11-13 B. 4-11-13
5 340 OUTSTANDING BILL 8 (P) J. 4-11-13 B. 4-11-13
6 101 THE GAMPOCKY 3 (P) L. 4-11-13 B. 4-11-13
7 340 OUTSTANDING BILL 8 (P) J. 4-11-13 B. 4-11-13
8 101 THE GAMPOCKY 3 (P) L. 4-11-13 B. 4-11-13
9 340 OUTSTANDING BILL 8 (P) J. 4-11-13 B. 4-11-13
10 101 THE GAMPOCKY 3 (P) L. 4-11-13 B. 4-11-13
11 340 OUTSTANDING BILL 8 (P) J. 4-11-13 B. 4-11-13
12 101 THE GAMPOCKY 3 (P) L. 4-11-13 B. 4-11-13

1.40 NEWARK STORAGE NOVICES CHASE (25,410; 2m 11) (5)

1 101 GEORGE VAN DER HAAR 15 (P) L. 4-11-14 B. 4-11-14
2 101 JIMMY JACK 12 (P) L. 4-11-14 B. 4-11-14
3 101 JIMMY JACK 12 (P) L. 4-11-14 B. 4-11-14
4 101 JIMMY JACK 12 (P) L. 4-11-14 B. 4-11-14
5 101 JIMMY JACK 12 (P) L. 4-11-14 B. 4-11-14

2.10 CONSORT TRAVEL NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (23,027; 3m) (8)

1 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10
2 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10
3 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10
4 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10
5 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10
6 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10
7 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10
8 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10

2.15 COMPUTER SPORTS SERVICES LINCOLN-SHIRE NATIONAL HANDICAP CHASE (27,155; 4m) (8)

1 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10
2 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10
3 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10
4 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10
5 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10
6 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10
7 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10
8 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10

3.15 TATTERSALLS MARES ONLY NOVICES CHASE (Quisler: 22,905; 2m 6) (8)

1 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10
2 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10
3 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10
4 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10
5 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10
6 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10
7 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10
8 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10

3.45 MARKET RASEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (21,898; 1m 6) (20)

1 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10
2 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10
3 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10
4 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10
5 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10
6 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10
7 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10
8 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10
9 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10
10 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10
11 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10
12 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10
13 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10
14 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10
15 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10
16 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10
17 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10
18 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10
19 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10
20 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10

Course specialists

1 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10
2 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10
3 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10
4 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10
5 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10
6 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10
7 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10
8 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10
9 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10
10 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10
11 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10
12 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10
13 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10
14 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10
15 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10
16 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11 (P) A. 5-11-10 M. 5-11-10
17 101 PRINCE METTERWICH 11

ITV companies angry at £4m increase in transmission fees

By MELINDA WITTSTOCK
MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

ITV companies are angry at a Home Office decision to allow National Transcommunications Ltd, the soon-to-be privatised ITV transmitter network, to charge higher than expected rates while it retains its monopoly of transmission during the next five years.

The annual charge of £61 million, set by the Home Office with OfTel, the telecommunications watchdog, represents an increase of £4 million over ITV companies' present transmission bills.

Donald Waters, chief executive of

Grampian Television, said he had expected NTL to charge £3 million-£4 million less than the present transmission rate. He said the £61 million rate would allow NTL an "excessive profit margin" when ITV companies were cutting costs to counter an unprecedented decline in advertising revenue, and a franchise auction of Channel 3 licences would be awarded to the highest cash bidder.

A charge of £57 million would still allow NTL a profit margin of 10 per cent. At £61 million, its profit margin will be 18 per cent.

But the Home Office defended its

decision, saying it had set the 1991 charge after considering projected inflation. "The charge is broadly equivalent to existing transmission costs but we have taken into account what might happen to the inflation rate," a spokesman said. "It was also calculated to ensure NTL got a reasonable return on capital, but we also took account of NTL's low degree of risk given its monopoly."

NTL, created from the engineering division of the Independent Broadcasting Authority, to be replaced by the Independent Television Commission in January, does not lose its monopoly position until 1996 when the BBC is

allowed to offer its transmission services to third parties.

The Home Office spokesman said NTL would also have to keep price rises 1 per cent below the retail price index from 1992 to 1995.

David Shaw, head of the ITV Association, and David McCall, chief executive of Anglia Television, will meet Home Office officials next week to discuss the charge. Mr Waters said NTL was "substantially overstaffed" and could lose 15-20 per cent of its staff without harming the quality of the transmission service. But an NTL spokesman said more than 200 staff were being cut from

the 1,044 employed by the IBA's engineering division.

Superchannel, the European satellite broadcaster where Virgin holds a 42 per cent stake, has paid £30 million to acquire the European and Soviet cable and satellite television rights to 100 films and television programmes from the MGM/UA and Pathe libraries.

The satellite company also said it was holding talks with Giancarlo Parretti, head of Pathe Communications, which acquired MGM/UA for \$1.36 billion, about the possibility of MGM taking a minority stake in Superchannel.

News of negotiations with Signor

Parretti comes just two weeks after talks between United Artists and Superchannel broke down. Both parties said they had failed to reconcile "major differences" regarding the long-term funding of the channel.

The Marucci family, which bought Superchannel two years ago, is understood to want to reduce its 56 per cent stake.

Superchannel, which reaches 23 million homes in Europe and is rebroadcast to a further 18 million homes in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union, will use the MGM roaring lion trade mark in promoting programmes.

Executive Editor
David Brewerton

THE POUND

US dollar
1.9675 (-0.0023)
German mark
2.9227 (+0.0104)
Exchange index
94.3 (+0.1)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1712.2 (+40.0)
FT-SE 100
2170.5 (+42.8)

New York Dow Jones
2540.59 (+1.23)
Tokyo Nikkei Ave
Closed

Closing Prices ... Page 39

Major indices and
major changes Page 36

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base: 14%
3-month interbank: 13 1/4-13 1/2%
3-month sterling bills: 12 1/4-12 1/2%
US: Prime Rate: 10%
Federal Funds: 7 1/4%
3-month Treasury: 7.08-7.09%
30-year bonds: 10.5-10.75%

CURRENCIES

London: New York
£/\$: 1.9675
£/DM: 2.9227
£/Sfr: 2.4751
£/FF: 165.72
£/Yen: 250.37
£/Ind: 54.3
ECU: 16.2591
SDR: 1.7614

GOLD

London: Gold: \$380.00 pm-\$383.50
close: \$384.00-\$384.50 (\$195.00)
New York: Gold: \$383.30-\$383.87

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Jan) ... \$30.55 bbl (\$30.00)
Denotes latest trading price

TOURIST RATES

	Bank	Bank
	Buy	Sell
Australia	2.54	2.49
Austria	13.76	13.65
Belgium	35.10	35.00
Canada	2.37	2.36
Denmark	11.70	11.60
Finland	7.39	7.30
France	10.38	10.30
Germany	1.48	1.47
Greece	319	319
Hong Kong	16.83	16.73
India	1.48	1.47
Italy	2250	2153
Japan	284.50	284.50
Netherlands	11.30	11.20
Norway	11.30	11.20
Portugal	208	208
South Africa	5.25	5.25
Spain	165	165
Sweden	11.30	11.20
Switzerland	7.39	7.30
Turkey	2.048	2.048
USA	1.9675	1.9675
Yugoslavia	25.00	25.00

Rates for small denomination bank only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques.
Retail Price Index: 100.5 (October)

Bank steps in to curb hopes of base rate cut

By ANATOLE KALETSKY, ECONOMICS EDITOR

THE Bank of England acted to halt speculation over an early cut in base rates as London's markets continued in the euphoric mood that followed Mrs Thatcher's resignation.

Stock market prices jumped 42.6 points to 2,170.5; sterling strengthened and short-term interest rates fell to levels that implied an almost immediate cut of half a percentage point in base rates. There was money market speculation that even bigger interest rate cuts were likely as soon as the Conservative leadership contest ended next week.

The Bank's signal - in the form of a two-week lending operation at the present base rate of 14 per cent - was aimed at suppressing hopes of lower rates soon. The Bank has repeatedly expressed its opposition to lower interest rates in the past few weeks, but has been unable to restrain the market's conviction that policy would soon dictate a cut.

Even talk of a possible tightening in Germany next month had little impact in these politically driven markets.

There were reports from Washington that Bundesbank officials were planning a rate increase around the time of the European summit on December 12 and 13. This would be designed to demonstrate that Germany's domestic anti-inflation policy would not be sacrificed to meet the concerns over excessively high interest rates in France, Italy and other ERM countries.

Concerns about higher German interest rates were sharpened by the news that Germany's M3 money supply had grown at an annualised rate of 5.7 per cent in October, against 5 per cent the month before. France also announced a stronger than expected GDP growth of 1.3 per cent in the

third quarter. This compared with 0.2 per cent in the second quarter and 0.8 per cent in the first three months of the year.

Despite concerns about monetary policy on the Continent, traders continued to speculate that a new Conservative leader would move aggressively on interest rates, perhaps as a prelude to a general election early next year.

National Westminster Bank contributed to the market's hopes with a prediction that base rates would be cut to 13.5 per cent soon after the new leader took office, with a further 0.5 per cent cut early next year.

Looking further ahead, it was "probable" that interest rates would fall to 12 per cent by the middle of next year, according to David Kern, NatWest's chief economist.

Mr Kern added that rate cuts were unlikely to threaten sterling's position in the ERM, where its effective floor is DM2.84/£5, compared with last night's rate of DM2.9240. Mr Kern said the "powerful economic argument" for lowering interest rates would protect sterling from falling to its lowest levels.

Politics also seemed to point to a strong, or at least, stable pound. A strengthened commitment to the ERM by the new Conservative leader would insure the pound against any abrupt decline even if British rates were cut in the weeks ahead, argued foreign exchange analysts.

"It is like ERM entry all over again," said Jim O'Neill, chief economist of Swiss Bank. He added, however, that the financial euphoria could prove short-lived. The new prime minister might find it difficult to unite the Conservative party in time for an early general election, and would be risking the credibility of Britain's ERM commitment.

ment if he cut interest rates much before Christmas.

On equities, George Hodgson, a market strategist at SG Warburg, said: "The market's performance this week has shown that people are prepared to look through the short-term (political) uncertainties... to next spring, by which time we should have had a cut in interest rates."

Traditionally the stock market rises towards the end of the year and many market operators are short of shares and facing cash-rich City institutions hunting bargain priced shares.

Paul Walton, equity strategist at James Capel, said there was an underlying recovery in the stock market that was only connected to a change of premier in terms of the likely effect on sterling. "Most of the big institutional investors are now minded to buy on a regular basis rather than all at once. They have cash and think the bad news on profits is discounted in the market."

"They are now looking for recovery and for opportunities to buy into basically sound stocks that have fallen too far." Even war in the Gulf might depress the market only briefly, Mr Walton added.

Kenneth Flett, page 37



Building on victory in a three-horse race: Joe Dwyer, who succeeds Sir Clifford Chetwood as chief executive

Wimpey resolves succession struggle

By MARTIN WALLER

SIR Clifford Chetwood, one of the best known names in the building industry, is stepping down as chief executive of George Wimpey, resolving the struggle for succession at the top of Britain's second biggest housebuilder.

Sir Clifford will continue as executive chairman, but as he has reached Wimpey's official

retirement age of 62, the decision has been taken to split the roles, with Joe Dwyer, aged 51, succeeding him as chief executive.

The company denied there had been any pressure from institutional shareholders behind Sir Clifford's decision. He was appointed to the post in 1984 and has been asked to

continue as chairman for at least two years.

Mr Dwyer won a three-horse race to take up the running of the group, but it is thought unlikely he will ever be chairman. The eventual departure of Sir Clifford will probably lead to the appointment of a non-executive

group managing director with two colleagues, Bob Seller and Nelson Oliver. Mr Dwyer, however, had the more central role, in charge of minerals, contracting and construction.

Wimpey, like much of the building industry, has hit hard times lately and reported a half-time profits fall of 72 per cent in September.

Incoming chief promises to tackle red tape in insurance

Jobs and syndicates to go at Lloyd's

By JONATHAN PRYNN

A WHOLESALE overhaul of the administration and bureaucracy of the Lloyd's insurance market is planned by David Coleridge, the chairman designate, after taking office next year.

The Corporation of Lloyd's, which governs the market and has a payroll of 2,000, is under pressure to reduce its cost base and burden of regulation at a time of intense competition in the global insurance market.

Mr Coleridge, who succeeds Murray Lawrence and who has worked in the market since 1950, said he planned to review the roles and responsibilities of the 20 committees

of the governing council of Lloyd's, many of which overlap with the eight sub-committees of the committee of Lloyd's.

"Out of the 20 I think we may be able to get rid of 25-30 per cent," Mr Coleridge said. "We just don't need that many. Amalgamations will enable us to save money and time and reduce the pressure on staff." Staff reductions are also planned. In addition, a council sub-committee is examining ways of simplifying the swathe of by-laws imposed on the market, largely as a result of the reforms of the past decade.

Apart from the savings the

overhaul is designed to set an example to the rest of the Lloyd's market. "The insurance industry has not done much re-organisation," Mr Coleridge said. "It has got to get costs down to be more competitive. There have been too many huge losses and not enough premium charged. The roundabout has got to come to a stop. It should have happened six months to a year ago but the insurance industry has been incredibly slow to react."

The incoming chairman said he anticipated sharp increases in premium rates next year and pointed out that the long overdue re-pricing pro-

cess had already begun in the fleet, cargo and excess of loss markets at Lloyd's. He added: "I don't believe many of the smaller businesses are viable. Running a syndicate with £10 million to £15 million capacity just does not make sense."

Mr Coleridge, who is chairman of the largest Lloyd's underwriting company, Sturge Holdings, forecast a reduction in the number of Lloyd's syndicates from its current level of nearly 400 to about 150 within the next five years. He foresees the larger syndicates boasting capacities of up to £500 million compared with a maximum of about £200 million now. This would enable underwriting agencies to afford modern technology systems.

He said the market would need to increase capacity by up to 50 per cent to more than £15 billion over the next five years to cope with the upturn in the insurance cycle in the early nineties.

Tackling perhaps the biggest single factor which turns potential new members away from Lloyd's, the open year problem, is another priority for the incoming chairman of the 302-year-old market. Next month's meeting of the council is likely to approve the formation of a Lloyd's owned re-insurance company to offer quotes for closing open years.

A combined offensive of the new company plus new by-laws making it much more difficult for underwriting agents to leave years open, should mean all the open years will be closed within five to 10 years, Mr Coleridge said.

£25m rights completes refinancing at IBC

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH

INTERNATIONAL Business Communications, the conference organiser and newsletter publisher whose shares were suspended at 31p in September, has completed its refinancing. The group is to raise £24.9 million through a rights issue, and dealings in the shares are expected to restart on Tuesday.

The group, which has breached its loan terms and been back to the bank for more cash three times this year already, has debts of £73 million. The rights issue will be of units made up of three new ordinary shares and 71p of unsecured subordinated debentures. The banks have agreed to convert approximately £24.9 million of outstanding loan facilities into units if the rights issue is not taken up, and could end up owning 75 per cent of the share capital of the company and all of the debentures.

The debentures carry no interest until January 1993, after which the interest rate will be 4 per cent a year. They mature in February 1996.

The banks are also lending a further £15.2 million to the company to repay existing loans by 1996. There is a new working capital facility of up to £12 million. IBC is also planning to make some disposals.

The banks have made it clear to the IBC directors that if the refinancing proposals are not put in place, they will not be prepared to continue their support for the company.

Brent concedes hard terms

By MARTIN WALLER

BRENT Walker, the debt-stricken leisure group, has had to concede onerous terms for the £106 billion refinancing package to ensure its survival. The banks required a commitment fee of 0.5 per cent, but payment of £5 million is deferred for a year, while interest on the loan facility will run at 2.25 percentage points above London interbank offered rate (Libor).

Banking sources said the terms reflected Brent Walker's difficult negotiating position, in default of its loans and therefore reliant on the banks' goodwill, as well as the big sums involved. Default would have been enough to push up the interest rate charged by as much as 1 percentage point.

The agreement includes a standby credit facility that would allow Brent Walker to raise £30 million in relation to the £50 million of consideration it has withdrawn from Grand Metropolitan, after its purchase of William Hill bookmakers.

There is another £20 million of priority security arranged. Brent Walker does not believe the sum will become payable and is counter-claiming for alleged lost profits, but a facility to cover the contingent liability was needed.

The biggest lender is Standard Chartered Bank, which is thought to be owed more than £150 million, but some of this may be hedged. The banks have insisted on a charge

against most of Brent Walker's assets, which include shares in luxury holiday developments in France and Spain, Brighton Marina and an involvement in the Trocadero shopping centre in London.

Brent Walker, the personal investment company of George Walker, the chairman, has been given eight days' grace to find the £27 million it agreed to put up for the issue.

Brent Walker has also applied to the Stock Exchange for permission not to publish much of the detail of the banking agreement, including names of lending banks. Brent Walker has refused to disclose financial ratios set by its banks which it must stick to or find itself in default again.

Another fine mess down at the Big Board

From PHILIP ROBINSON
IN NEW YORK

FOR the few Wall Street brokers who managed to make the journey into Manhattan yesterday after America's Thanksgiving Day off, the morning confirmed that they ought to have stayed at home.

Just 11 minutes and 3 million shares after the start of trading, the New York Stock Exchange bell was rung again to signal a halt in dealing in the Big Board's stocks.

The computer had had a bout of indigestion on Thursday's traditional turkey dinner celebrations, which mark one of America's most important holidays and the start of the Christmas shopping season. Trading was delayed for more than 90 minutes.

The continuous tape, which records

every deal in price and size, stopped, the screens froze and the traders performed their second favourite pastime - telling jokes. "We couldn't do anything," said one, "so we read the papers, told a few jokes and waited."

Not that it was a big deal. There was no major economic news due out to shake the market, corporate surprises were at a minimum and the dealers, having heard all the jokes, read the papers and telephoned home, watching the clock before resuming the long weekend.

There was hardly any trading. One dealer said: "Most portfolio managers and many brokers are taking the four-day weekend off anyway. It was a transformer that went down and disabled the computer."

The blackout is the most recent of a number to hit NYSE trading. Dealing

was halted for two hours last year when there was a fire in the building housing the exchange computers, and a month ago a failure that cut power to a large part of south Manhattan stopped trading on the exchange again.

These interruptions of normal service come at a delicate time for the exchange as it is looking at proposals for 24-hour trading, in a competition war for new issues and wants to lure back home the program trading that has leaked to London.

London accounts for almost 15 per cent of all program trades carried out by New York Stock Exchange members. The essential ingredient for such automatic transfer of shares? A working computer.

The New York Stock Exchange said that it is investigating the power-related problem that knocked out

NYSE trading for nearly two hours. "We need to identify what happened and how it happened," Richard Torrenzano, an exchange spokesman, said.

"I don't have a lot of answers right now - no one does," he said. The exchange's technicians had told him that the problem was "not a systems issue, but a power issue". If possible, he said, the NYSE will set up safeguards to prevent repetition of such an event in the future.

NYSE trading resumed at 11.15am after the delay at 9.41am. Mr Torrenzano said that transactions conducted in the first 11 minutes of trading proceeded smoothly.

Consolidated Edison said it was not responsible for NYSE's power problems, but that it had sent a crew to the scene to investigate the situation as a precaution.

B.I.A. Bond Investments AG
10 Baarerstrasse, 6301 Zug, Switzerland.

- The Swiss Franc is internationally recognised as one of the world's strongest currencies.
- In times of uncertainty, many investors throughout the world seek the security and opportunity provided by Swiss Franc denominated investments.
- Now you can invest in Swiss bonds and deposits the easy way - by purchasing units in the conservative investment scheme of B.I.A. Bond Investments AG.
- "B.I.A." is the only Swiss collective investment scheme which is directly recognised by the Securities and Investments Board (SIB) under the UK Financial Services Act.

A SAFETY-FIRST INVESTMENT IN SWISS FRANCS

- B.I.A.'s investment portfolio is 100% invested in first class Swiss Franc denominated bonds and deposits - offering investors secure capital protection and growth.
- B.I.A.'s investments are conservatively managed and, as it aims to maximise capital gains, all income is reinvested.
- B.I.A.'s "bearer" units are easy to buy or sell. The Swiss Franc denominated unit prices are quoted daily in the FT, and each unit currently costs approximately £410. The Sterling value of units will increase or decrease depending on exchange rate movements.
- Copies of B.I.A.'s Scheme Details and Annual Report are available to investors and advisers from B.I.A. or from its representatives, International Investment Consultants Ltd., who have approved this advertisement.

To: David Burren, Marketing Director, International Investment Consultants Ltd., 30 Finsbury Square, London EC2A 1SB. Tel: 071-638 2540 or 071-586 1932.
Fax: 071-638 2472. Telex: 885601 EBSLON G

Mt/Mrs/Ms
Address _____
Postcode _____ Telephone _____

B.I.A. BOND INVESTMENTS AG

Lack of political will leaves Gatt talks unresolved

By COLIN NARRBROUGH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

TRADE negotiators seeking to draft accords that will liberalize world trade on an unprecedented scale have effectively halted their efforts after nearly four years, leaving the issue of agricultural subsidies unresolved.

Lack of political will to compromise has halted progress with only nine days to go until the concluding ministerial conference meets in Brussels.

The conference was the deadline for reaching agreement on the ambitious "Uruguay Round" of talks under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, but it is likely that talks will run into next year.

A Gatt spokesman said talks had all but wound up their work at the organization's Geneva headquarters yesterday. Arthur Dunkel, the Gatt director general, will make public the results on Tuesday, with draft agreements presented whether complete or not. The big political issues will be left unresolved.

Despite threatening noises from Washington, the European Community has shown no signs of improving its offer of 30 per cent cuts in its support to farm goods. A last-minute attempt by American negotiators and other leading agricultural exporters, such as Australia and Argentina, failed to narrow the gap.

Most of the agricultural exporters want subsidies cut by between 75 and 90 per cent, against which the EC offer appears extremely modest. Carla Hills, the American trade representative, fears the

EC position threatens the whole Gatt round. Without concessions from the Europeans, primarily the French and Germans, she foresees a large number of countries walking away from the negotiating table. Failure of the round could bring world recession and trade wars, she said.

France's powerful farming lobby is the main obstacle to concessions by the EC, while Germany is seen as merely backing the French position out of political solidarity.

Gatt officials feel that paths to compromise exist if politicians wish to follow them. Mr Dunkel will next week offer a paper of his own intended to point the way forward. He details the ten to 12 key political questions requiring an urgent answer.

Brussels has doggedly resisted a change to its 30 per cent cut proposal or calls to provide specific commitments on its controversial export subsidies and import barriers. Negotiators are convinced

that nothing will happen to change that until ministers meet next month.

Mr Dunkel has recently been trying to persuade governments that the Gatt round requires decisions at the highest level, as farm and trade ministers have reached an impasse. Although the round was discussed bilaterally at the Paris security conference summit this week, no result has emerged.

The Uruguay Round was debated in the Commons yesterday, with John Gummer, the agriculture minister, accusing British farmers and consumers of failing to face up to the issue of subsidy cuts. He said: "We have spent far too long pretending the Gatt round would not come about."

He underlined the importance of success on other aspects at the Uruguay Round, such as services and intellectual property, areas in which America this week made proposals likely to upset accords. The Gatt system would also have to be extended to give access to the newly democratised countries of eastern Europe.

David Clark, the shadow agriculture minister, gave warning that there was a prospect of the Uruguay Round failing, drawing attention to recent remarks from the American trade representative. "A trade war between the United States and the EC would really have catastrophic effects," Mr Clark said. He accused the government of simply seeking a damage limitation on the farm subsidy.



Dunkel: key questions

Nadir backs Cyprus plea

By ANGELA MACKAY



Fighting closedown fears: Richard Stone of Cork Gully

ASIL Nadir and the administrators to his company, Polly Peck International, have filed affidavits in support of the subsidiaries in northern Cyprus. The filings are in preparation for an application to lift the injunction that is preventing the administrators from gaining access to information about the subsidiaries.

Richard Stone, one of the administrators from Cork Gully, part of Coopers & Lybrand Deloitte, returned from northern Cyprus yesterday. He confirmed he had filed an affidavit explaining that the administrators aimed to keep the fresh fruit, hotels and packaging group operational.

The Turkish Cypriot government has been reluctant to cooperate with the administrators in case they tried to close the companies — the biggest private employers on the island.

Mr Nadir also filed an affidavit in support of the application to have the injunction lifted. Mr Nadir, PPI's chairman and biggest shareholder, has been in northern Cyprus overseeing the application, in addition to mustering his personal finances to defend a bankruptcy action brought against him by Lehman Brothers and BZW, his brokers.

PPI shares were suspended in September after their value more than halved when the Serious Fraud Office raided an affiliated company, South Audley Management. Just before administrators were appointed last month, the SFO again mounted a raid, this time on PPI's office.

Mr Nadir has accused the SFO of single-handedly destroying market confidence in his company and is taking legal action to try to force it to justify its actions.

Mr Nadir has been given a date for a judicial review of the SFO's raid on PPI offices in October. The Queen's Bench Division of the High Court will hear Mr Nadir's case on February 26 1991.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

J Walter Thompson cuts staff by 10%

THE loss of 40 jobs at the London offices of J Walter Thompson, almost 10 per cent of the agency's workforce, has highlighted the troubles of WPP Group, the advertising company Chris Jones, JWP's managing director, blamed the loss of the National Westminster Bank account, a general slowdown in forecast client expenditures and new efficiencies in the company.

This week Mike Walsh, head of WPP's Ogilvy & Mather offshoot in London, was forced to deny rumours about possible redundancies. WPP shares collapsed by 27p in the first two days of the week after a profits warning started concern that pressure on earnings would make it increasingly difficult for the company to service its debt. The shares, which traded as high as 715p at one stage this year, edged ahead 7p to 134p yesterday.

Board posts at PowerGen to be traced

POWERGEN, the electricity generator, has appointed a non-executive director, John Gardiner, chairman and chief executive of Land Group, the automotive engineering company, to replace last week as chairman by Sir Graham Day, another non-executive director. Also promoted to the board is Michael Reidy, as director in charge of the corporate services division.

CU in takeover talks

COMMERCIAL Union is in talks to buy Globe Morley, the pension fund portfolio management unit of Globe Investment Trust, it has announced. Commercial Union has £15 billion of funds under management while Globe Morley has £500 million.

Commercial Union gave no financial details, but Chris Hitchens, insurance analyst at Hoare Govett, the broker, said the deal could be worth half to one and a half per cent of the funds managed — equivalent to £5 million. Commercial Union shares rose 11p to 499p.

HMV sale in New Zealand grows 1.3%

THORN EMI, the electronics and music publishing group, is to sell its record retailing HMV business in New Zealand for NZ\$12.7 million (£3.96 million) to Brash Holdings, an Australian retailer. Thorn said that the chain of 20 small record shops is no longer central to the group's strategy, focused on superstores in big population centres. HMV has 140 stores internationally.

Stirling Group down

STIRLING Group, the Manchester manufacturer of women's clothes, suffered a fall in pre-tax profits from £1.61 million to £305,000 in the six months to end-September. The company blamed the decline on reduced margins and poor sales level.

Group sales were 8.3 per cent lower at £18.8 million. Earnings per share slumped from 2.5p to 0.53p, although the interim dividend is maintained at 0.5p. The shares lost 5p to 30p. Peter Sheldon, Stirling's chairman, said it was unlikely that the shortfall in first half profits will be recovered in the second half.

Skoda still undecided on partner

From REUTER IN PRAGUE

SKODA, the Czechoslovak state-owned carmaker preparing to choose between Renault and Volkswagen in a multi-billion dollar partnership deal, has again denied that the issue is already settled.

"Negotiations are still open," Skoda said, as Roger Fauroux, French industry minister, and Raymond Levy, Regie Nationale des Usines Renault chairman, visited the Skoda works near Prague.

Renault and its partner Volvo have suggested that a decision in favour of Volkswagen would signal that Czechoslovakia is firmly part of the German sphere of economic influence. France has urged Czechoslovakia to demonstrate it wants balanced foreign trade relations.

Volkswagen has offered Skoda an DM8 billion deal. The Renault-Volvo offer, believed to be worth less, is due to be presented next week.

G&G Kynoch to close factory

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH

G&G KYNOCH, the Banffshire woollen manufacturer, is restructuring the company in the face of the depressed state of the textile market. Kynoch is closing down its manufacturing operation at Keith which is responsible for the bulk of the group's losses. The cost of the closure is £2.31 million.

The group made a pre-tax loss for the year to end August of £983,000 compared with a loss last year of £374,000. Turnover fell from £4.9 million to £4.02 million and the interest charge rose from £420,000 to £555,000. The extraordinary charge for the Keith closure gives a retained loss of £3.33 million compared with £416,000. The loss per share is 145p compared with 67p and there is no dividend.

The group expects to sell the surplus assets next year and

intends to strengthen the design, product development and sample manufacturing facilities at Keith. Laurence J Smith in the Shetland Islands made a profit of £40,616 on turnover of £937,000.

Since the year end the group has had a £4.4 million rights issue to finance the acquisition of MDH for £2.83 million from BTR. MDH makes contamination control equipment for the healthcare industry. Kynoch is diversifying further with the acquisition of Cape Environmental for £800,000, also from BTR. Cape provides services to the engineering industry. The group is considering proposals for an application to the court for a reduction in the company's share premium account which would pave the way for it to recommence dividend payments. The shares fell 2p to 50p.

Century up by 79% at half year

By JONATHAN PRYNN

CENTURY Oil, the lubricants group, has announced a 79 per cent advance in pre-tax interim profits to £2 million to end-September. The interim dividend is kept at 1.75p.

Sales increased 18 per cent to £57.1 million, which includes turnover gained through the acquisition of French subsidiaries last year, offset by a reduction in low-margin British and American business. Operating profits were up 64 per cent to £3.5 million (£2.1 million). Borrowings taken on for the acquisitions contributed to higher interest charges, which are expected to be contained in the second half.

Charles Mitchell, the chairman, said trading conditions had remained difficult, with further declines in demand from mining, construction and manufacturing industries. He said the company was trying to improve efficiency of its core businesses.

Heywood injects £1m into K McAnallen

By PHILIP FANGALOS

HEYWOOD Williams Group, the glass, aluminium and plastic products specialist, has expanded into Northern Ireland by acquiring 51 per cent of K McAnallen, in Benburys, Co Tyrone, for an initial £625,000 in cash and shares.

Heywood has also introduced £1 million of capital into K McAnallen in equity capital as part of the agree-

ment and will pay up to a further £750,000 depending on performance. K McAnallen makes and distributes glass, safety glass and sealed units, as well as aluminium in aluminium fabrication. The company made pre-tax profits of £207,000 in the nine months to end-September, on turnover of £3.57 million with net assets of £876,000.

LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

Option	Strike	Call	Put	Call	Put
ASX	100	100	100	100	100
ASX	100	100	100	100	100
ASX	100	100	100	100	100
ASX	100	100	100	100	100
ASX	100	100	100	100	100
ASX	100	100	100	100	100
ASX	100	100	100	100	100
ASX	100	100	100	100	100
ASX	100	100	100	100	100
ASX	100	100	100	100	100

RECENT ISSUES

Equities	Issue	Price
ASX	100	100
ASX	100	100
ASX	100	100
ASX	100	100
ASX	100	100
ASX	100	100
ASX	100	100
ASX	100	100
ASX	100	100
ASX	100	100

Portfolio

PLATINUM

For readers who may have missed a copy of *The Times* last week, we repeat below the week's Portfolio price changes (today's are on page 38).

Stock	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	+5	+7	+7	+3	+3		
2	+6	+6	+5	+6	+3		
3	+9	+7	+5	+5	+3		
4	+6	+5	+8	+3	+4		
5	+9	+7	+5	+3	+4		
6	+6	+7	+8	+5	+5		
7	+7	+9	+8	+6	+5		
8	+6	+6	+7	+4	+5		
9	+8	+6	+4	+4	+4		
10	+7	+9	+8	+6	+5		
11	+6	+8	+4	+7	+8		
12	+7	+7	+6	+5	+5		
13	+6	+8	+4	+7	+8		
14	+4	+9	+5	+5	+5		
15	+5	+6	+8	+3	+3		
16	+7	+5	+4	+4	+3		
17	+4	+4	+9	+5	+4		
18	+7	+6	+6	+4	+3		
19	+5	+6	+8	+6	+6		
20	+6	+5	+8	+3	+3		
21	+8	+6	+7	+4	+3		
22	+6	+8	+7	+4	+3		
23	+7	+9	+6	+8	+3		
24	+4	+7	+5	+5	+4		
25	+4	+7	+5	+5	+4		
26	+8	+5	+6	+5	+4		
27	+6	+7	+5	+7	+7		
28	+4	+9	+3	+5	+4		
29	+4	+5	+7	+5	+3		
30	+5	+7	+8	+4	+4		
31	+8	+5	+5	+4	+4		
32	+6	+8	+7	+5	+8		
33	+8	+4	+4	+8	+8		
34	+5	+5	+8	+3	+3		
35	+5	+4	+8	+3	+3		
36	+9	+7	+5	+9	+8		
37	+5	+7	+6	+5	+5		
38	+8	+8	+4	+9	+5		
39	+8	+6	+5	+3	+3		
40	+6	+9	+4	+8	+5		
41	+4	+4	+8	+4	+3		
42	+9	+6	+4	+5	+3		
43	+7	+9	+8	+7	+6		
44	+5	+8	+7	+5	+5		

Pontin bids for Bremner

By OUR CITY STAFF

SIR Fred Pontin, the holiday camp pioneer, is to launch a fresh bid to win control of Bremner, the troubled former Glasgow store business.

The founder of Pontins holidays, who is 84, has teamed with Jim Rowland-Jones, former Bremner chairman, and Ronnie Aitken, company doctor, in an attempt to remove the present board.

Bremner installed all its existing directors in July, but was found to be in fresh turmoil last week when Ronald McNeill, one of the four new directors, disclosed that he had resigned in September, after what he described as "considerable acrimony", reserving the right to take

action against Bremner and its directors.

In a circular to shareholders Mr Rowland-Jones, whose family is the biggest single shareholder in Bremner, says he will call a shareholders' meeting to replace the existing board with himself, Sir Fred, Mr Aitken and David B Furness.

If the plan is successful, an earlier plan to inject some of Sir Fred's private leisure interests into the company could be revived. These interests include a hotel, catering establishments, and Mousetraps (UK), a new travel business specialising in holiday trips to the EuroDisney theme park near Paris.



Sir Fred Pontin

MCA to come cheaper

From PHILIP ROBINSON IN NEW YORK

MATSUSHITA, the Japanese electronics group, is expected to launch the biggest bid that Hollywood has ever seen this weekend with a \$7 billion offer for MCA, the owner of Universal Studios.

Matsushita's price is forecast at between \$70 and \$75 for each MCA share, almost \$20 lower than had been predicted. MCA shares fell \$1.75 to \$66.75 on Wall Street in response.

Analysts said the lower price some had initially expected \$100 a share — reflects a weakening American economy. MCA's investment in Cineplex Odeon, the troubled cinema chain, the slow start of the Florida theme park, which is a joint venture with Rank Organisation, and problems over valuing property holdings in a depressed

market. Almost a fifth of MCA's biggest Hollywood attraction, the \$20-acre studio tour, was destroyed by fire two weeks ago inflicting an estimated \$25 million worth of damage.

Both sides refused to comment officially, but those close to the talks said the deal could be announced before the market opens on Monday.

It is thought that MCA's hotel and catering concession for Yosemite National Park, estimated to be worth about \$150 million, will not be part of the deal. Government officials have indicated opposition to the Japanese owning one of America's largest national parks.

Foreign ownership will also be barred from MCA's television station, which is expected to be spun off as a separate company and is worth between \$3 and \$5 a share of the total bid price.

The Matsushita bid clouds the European expansion policy of MCA's theme parks. After several delays, MCA is expected to decide at Christmas whether it will open a \$1.2 billion park at Rainham Marshes, Essex, as a further joint venture with Rank or choose a site 20 miles outside Paris and close to the new Disney Europark, which is due to open in less than two years.

Either way, industry analysts say Rank is apprehensive about further commercial links with the film maker and was disappointed with the disastrous start made at Florida, when the King Kong-Jaws and Earthquake attractions failed to work properly until well after opening day.

Walt Disney, 20th Century Fox and Largo Entertainment, the small independent film maker, have all recently sought Japanese backing.

The wise and whereofers of Framlington unit trusts

FAMOUS FOR FUND MANAGEMENT

RENEWED FOR RESULTS

Find out how our unit trusts can give a real boost to your savings.

Send for a FREE copy of the Framlington Unit Trust Guide now.

Past performance is not necessarily a guide to the future. The price of units and the income from them are not guaranteed and can go down as well as up.

Advertisement issued by Framlington Unit Management Limited, member of (LMA), (LNU), (LUB) and the LTA.

TO FRAMLINGTON UNIT MANAGEMENT LIMITED, FREEPOST, 155 BISHOPSGATE, LONDON EC2B 2JT. TELEPHONE 071-574 1100

Please send me a copy of the Framlington Unit Trust Guide.

Surname _____ Initials _____
 Address _____
 Postcode _____
 If you are already a Framlington investor please tick ☐

71/70/241103

Borrowers count cost of loan deals

By HELEN FRIDMAN

BUILDING societies are increasingly linking special mortgage deals to their combined buildings and contents insurance package. These arrangements may bring savings initially in the form of lower monthly repayments, but, in the longer term, borrowers will often be able to save more money buying home insurance cover separately.

The Halifax is one of the latest to offer such an arrangement. The society recently launched a 1.25 per cent discount for first-time borrowers that runs until the end of December 1991 on the condition that its home insurance is taken as well.

Reductions on larger loans, low-start mortgages and fixed-rate deals may all have such strings attached.

Societies were able to start offering their own home insurance packages after the 1986 Building Societies Act. The policies are usually underwritten by a panel of leading insurers, such as Commercial Union, Eagle Star, Legal & General and Sun Alliance. The commission the societies earn provides a useful source of extra income.

Last week, the Leeds Permanent published annual figures showing that its income from commissions had risen by £20 million to £90 million.

Where the combined property and contents cover is offered as an optional extra,

societies find that the take-up is about 40 per cent of new borrowers. The combined packages have the advantage of convenience, as home buyers do not have to bother about taking out separate policies.

Normally there is no need to work out the value of possessions. Most societies use the value and location of the property as their guide to calculating premiums, and accidental damage cover is often automatically included as well.

The amount of contents cover varies. The cover may be a fixed amount such as the £35,000 offered by Leeds Permanent, or, as at the Nationwide Anglia, 50 per cent of the amount for which the buildings are insured.

The Halifax also works on 50 per cent of cover, though in the event of a claim, the amount for contents cover is flexible. For example, on a £50,000 property, total cover would be £75,000, but more than £25,000 could be claimed for contents if required.

Increasingly, the amount of contents cover being provided by the societies' packages is unlimited. So the danger of underinsurance, which exists under a traditional policy, is avoided and there is no risk of claims being reduced.

But borrowers should look carefully at how much they are paying for this peace of mind. Premiums vary considerably between societies and some

are more competitive in lower risk areas than higher risk areas and vice versa.

The rates the largest societies would charge for a property in a higher risk area such as Harrow, north London, and a low risk area on the outskirts of Bradford, West Yorkshire, are shown in the table. The premiums include cover for accidental damage.

For Harrow, premiums vary between £451.00 and £688.08, while for Bradford the range is £222.60 to £335.10.

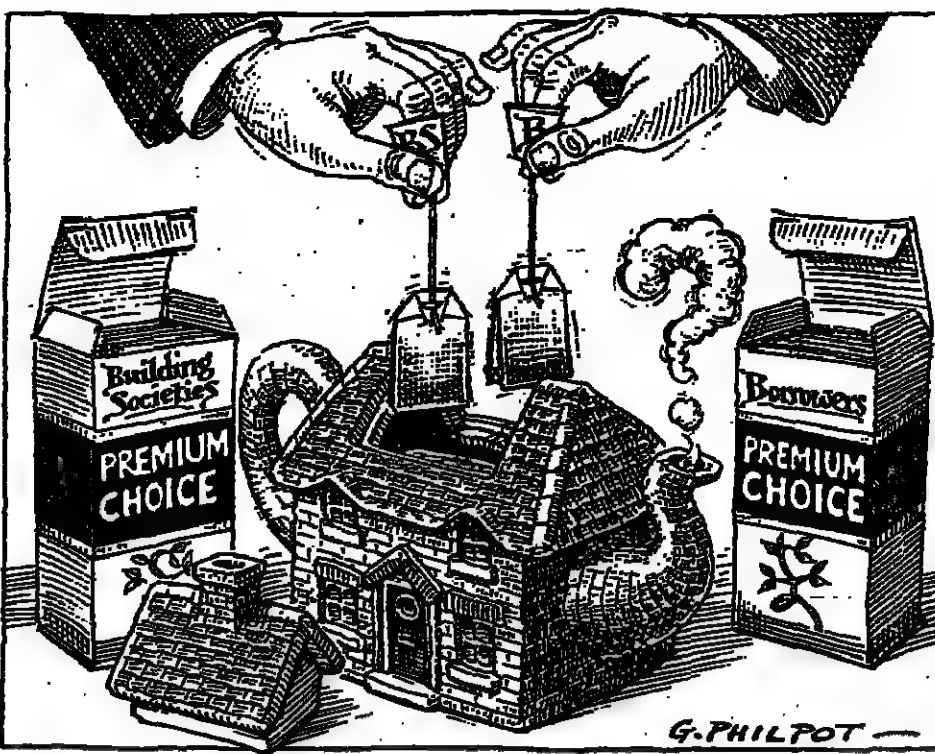
How these premiums compare with what homebuyers can obtain elsewhere will very much depend on how much the home contents are actually worth.

For someone living in a Harrow property with a re-building cost of £94,000, with contents worth half that amount, then the societies' premiums are competitive compared with those charged by Municipal Mutual, a low cost home insurer, or Directline, a company that started out offering motor insurance at reduced rates direct to the public over the telephone. For the Bradford property, however, both companies would charge less.

The difference is more marked where the home contents are of modest value. This may apply particularly to first-time buyers, who are unlikely to have large amounts of possessions when they set up home.

If the contents are only worth 20 per cent of the value of the property in each case, equivalent to £18,800 in Harrow and £10,600 in Bradford, the savings possible by insuring independently would be considerable.

The difference between the cost of this cover for the Bradford property from Directline compared with the Halifax package is nearly £200 a year. This is less than the saving from the 1.25 per cent



first-time buyer's discount given by the Halifax, which would work out at £531 on a £50,000 mortgage over one year. After that it would make sense to switch.

Existing borrowers who are not benefiting from interest rate discounts and do not live in high risk areas could save considerably if they make the effort to check the value of their possessions and find alternative quotes.

Building societies may make a £20 to £25 administrative charge to effect the change on buildings cover, but no fee is levied for taking out separate contents insurance.

	Contents cover	Location/rebuilding value of property	Estimated annual premium
Halifax	50% of prop val up to £14,000; 50% of prop val unlimited	Harrow HAR, £94,000	£76.80
Abbey National	50% of prop val up to £14,000; 50% of prop val unlimited	Bradford BODS, £94,000	£254.40
Nationwide Anglia	50% of prop val up to £14,000; 50% of prop val unlimited	Harrow HAR, £94,000	£72.30
Woolwich	50% of prop val up to £14,000; 50% of prop val unlimited	Bradford BODS, £94,000	£243.80
Alliance & Leicester	50% of prop val up to £14,000; 50% of prop val unlimited	Harrow HAR, £94,000	£73.40
Leeds Permanent	50% of prop val up to £14,000; 50% of prop val unlimited	Bradford BODS, £94,000	£254.40
National & Provincial	50% of prop val up to £14,000; 50% of prop val unlimited	Harrow HAR, £94,000	£72.30
Commercial Union	50% of prop val up to £14,000; 50% of prop val unlimited	Bradford BODS, £94,000	£254.40
Bradford & Bingley	50% of prop val up to £14,000; 50% of prop val unlimited	Harrow HAR, £94,000	£72.30
Directline	50% of prop val up to £14,000; 50% of prop val unlimited	Bradford BODS, £94,000	£254.40
Municipal Mutual	50% of prop val up to £14,000; 50% of prop val unlimited	Harrow HAR, £94,000	£72.30

*All premiums quoted include accidental damage cover, though in many cases policies are available without this cover at a lower premium. †Contents cover not listed at 50% are based on a value of £10,000.

BRIEFINGS

Society for Nature Conservation. Cardholders can also nominate their own charity.

Owner-managers of companies often pay too much tax because they do not co-ordinate their business and personal affairs, Neville Russell, the chartered accountant, has said. The firm has brought out a guide to tax planning costing £4.95.

Employers competing for scarce staff will improve the range of benefits available, but staff have different ideas about what perks they want, according to a survey for the Woolwich Building Society.

Subsidised mortgages are raised important by 58 per cent of employees but only 23 per cent of employers. Company cars are rated as important or very important by 77 per cent of employees but only 44 per cent of staff.

A free guide to English trust law in English, French and Italian has been produced by Rathbone Trust Company. European countries, including France and Italy, are now recognising the principle of English trust law that trust property constitutes a separate legal fund. Free copies are available on 071 630 3611.

Land Registry opens records for inspection

By MARGARET DIBBEN

ANYONE who has ever wondered who owns the empty house next door or the vacant plot of land at the bottom of the garden will soon have a better chance of finding out.

From December 3, the Land Registry will be open to the public for the first time. Then, everyone will have the right to check on the ownership of houses or land. Ramblers, whose path over a public right of way is barred, and property developers looking for empty land on which to build, can discover who to approach.

Owners cannot refuse to have their property included on the register, although very shy landowners can use nominee names to hide their identity.

The open register will not answer every enquiry because not all land is registered, even though the Land Registry started operating late last century. Land and houses are entered on the register on the first occasion they change ownership after registration starts in that area. If a property never changes hands it never comes on to the register.

There has been a rolling programme of compulsory registration and the final six areas will be added next Saturday. Properties in parts of Essex, Suffolk, and Hereford and Worcester will only start coming on to the register when they are sold after that date.

At present, the register contains about 13 million properties with an estimated 9 million still unregistered, although the situation is not as clear cut as it sounds.

John O'Sullivan, registry spokesman, said: "One field would be registered as one entry. But if someone decided to build 800 houses on it, then what was one entry becomes 800 entries."

There will be a charge of £6, which is not refundable, to find out whether a property is registered. For £12 the name of the owner will be given and the second £6 is refundable if the land proves to be unregistered. For a further £6 a plan of the property can be provided. There is no fee for

homeowners to inspect their own property details, which will be sent to the address registered.

Copies of the register may or may not show the previous owners. At present the entries are being put on to computer. About 1 million have been included so far and these will only show the present owner.

Paper-based entries are more likely to show previous owners, but not necessarily. Information about previous owners cannot be requested from the Land Registry.

The Land Registry's income fell sharply last year because of the slump in house sales. In 1988/89, the surplus returned to the Treasury was £34 million, but last year this fell to £10 million. Opening the register will bring in new income, but if this is insufficient for the Registry to pay its way charges will have to rise.

Mr O'Sullivan said: "We are only just opening the register now and who knows what will happen. People may want to use it a lot, in which case our income will shoot up."

Until the register opens to the public, nearly three-quarters of the registry's work has been concerned with conveyancing, which in the year to last March involved 1.7 million property sales. Buyers were allowed to inspect the register in these circumstances because the homeowners gave their consent.

This pre-purchase work involves checking the register so that a prospective buyer knows that the house legally belongs to the person selling it, whether there is mortgage outstanding on the property and who it is with (but not the amount) and whether any matrimonial disputes have been noted on the register.

The cost of registering a property for the first time or buying a registered property is between £25 for a house worth up to £20,000 and £900 for an estate costing more than £5 million. A house between £100,000 and £150,000 costs £180 to register.

EDITED BY LINDSAY COOK, MONEY EDITOR

UP TO
10.7%
P.A. INCOME
OR UP TO 22.54% GROWTH
Free of basic rate tax

2 YEARS GUARANTEED

QUARTERLY AND MONTHLY INCOME OPTIONS

ACT NOW PHONE **LIBERTY**

GEORGE THORPE ON **081 518 2344** GUARANTEED

OR SEND FOR DETAILS OF THIS **BONDS**

STRICTLY LIMITED OFFER

LIABLE TO BE WITHDRAWN AT SHORT NOTICE

MINIMUM INVESTMENT £2,000

To: Liberty Financial Services, City Gate House, Gants Hill, Wotton (G2) 6LR

Name _____

Address _____

Tel No _____

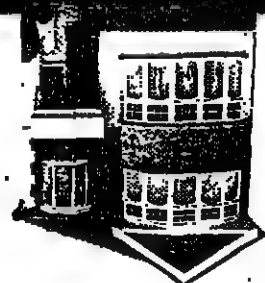
Liberty Financial Services is a division of Liberty Life Assurance Co Ltd, which is a member of Lloyds. Liberty Life is responsible for tax on the returns from the assets underlying the Bond at the rate applicable to Life Assurance Funds.

A PENSION PLAN WITH PRIVATE PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT

To find out more, ring our free Moneyline from 9.30 a.m. - 5.30 p.m., 7 days a week, on **0800 282 101**

SAVE & PROSPER
THE INVESTMENT HOUSE

BARCLAYS NEW CAPPED-RATE MORTGAGE CAN ONLY GO ONE WAY.



And that's downwards. We've cut the rate for our new capped mortgage* to a very attractive 12.95%, APR 15.4%, until the end of October 1991.

If, during that period, our standard mortgage rate falls below the capped rate, you automatically switch to paying the lower. Funds are limited so you'll need to act quickly.

How can you possibly lose? Simple, don't ring the free Barclays Information Line below.

Please note.

It's obviously important to make sure you don't take on more than you can afford. We will be glad to talk to you about this before you borrow. And if you should run into difficulties with repayments, please talk to us as early as possible. The bank will require a first charge over the property and a first charge of an approved life policy (or policies).

YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT

A written quotation is available from your local Barclays branch or Barclays Bank PLC, Home Mortgage Unit, PO Box 120, Longwood Close, Westwood Business Park, Coventry CV4 8JN. (Member of IMRO).

CALL THE BARCLAYS INFORMATION LINE ON 0800 400 100. FREE

12.95%
APR 15.4%

YOU'RE
BETTER OFF
TALKING TO
BARCLAYS

What
can you buy
for six pence
in the
stock market?

With most financial institutions, not very much. With the Foreign & Colonial Private Investor Plan, however, you'll pay only 0.2% in brokerage fees.

Which works out at six pence for every £25 you invest.

For that, you'll get 122 years experience of managing money for small investors who don't plan to stay that way.

Foreign & Colonial
Investment Trusts

Foreign & Colonial Management Ltd is manager of five Foreign & Colonial investment trusts, and a member of IMRO. Costs exclude stamp duty (minimum 50p). The value of shares can fall as well as rise and past performance is no guide to the future.

For a copy of our Private Investor Plan brochure and application forms, send this coupon to: Foreign & Colonial Management Limited, PO Box 2, Twyford, Berkshire RG10 9NW. Or telephone Eleanor Brett on 071 628 8000 (24 hour answering service on 071 454 1404).

Name _____ Mr/Mrs/Miss/Other _____
Address _____ Postcode _____

PP/T/24/11/90

TAX FREE

هكذا من الأهل

LETTERS

Policy endorsements added after renewal paid

From Mrs A. R. Brown
Sir, We have a house contents insurance policy with a well-known insurance company and almost every year, after having paid the premium for renewal of the existing policy, we have only subsequently received details of "endorsements" or "important policy changes".

These changes have been neither requested nor notified, still less agreed, before policy renewal, and cannot be justified as no insurance claims have ever been made on the policy. One recent endorsement removed, among other things, all cover for theft if the property was unoccupied for more than 24 hours.

We are at present contesting a policy amendment which removes all cover on a holiday home when unoccupied for 30 days or more, thus invalidating the whole purpose of the policy. Surely it should be illegal for companies to change policy details without the policyholder's prior knowledge or consent? Do other readers have similar problems?

Yours faithfully,
A. R. BROWN,
Argus,
32600 L'Isle-Jourdain,
France.

The overdraft is to pay off the overdraft arrangement fee



'Excessive security' at First Direct

From J. M. Jennings
Sir, First Direct seem to be a curious lot, as Michael Owen found out.

I was not asked for previous bank statements, but they seem to be excessively security conscious, needing a password, my mother's maiden name and a memorable (to me) date.

Presumably this was to check if I really am the person on the phone. On the other hand if I go to the "hole in the wall" for my balance, the figure in brilliant green light is displayed for anyone to see - unlike the National Westminster Bank, who issue a discreet printed slip, reverse view to the public, which also forms a useful record.

But First Direct's 9 per cent on the current account is very attractive. Yours faithfully, J. M. JENNINGS
3 Glebe Road, Sussex

Bank customer counts cost of increasing overdraft limit

From Mr N. Hamilton-Hamill
Sir, With reference to the letter from David Channing, Overdraft Charges, on November 17. Count yourself lucky Mr Channing. I recently exceeded my arranged overdraft facility and received a letter saying they were going to charge me 31.7 per cent interest because that was the law, and they did.

Then I went to see them to arrange an increase in my overdraft facility. They wanted to charge an "arrangement fee" for this of £300. I negotiated that down to £150!

I know a little about computers but not a lot. Can it really cost that sort of money to reset an overdraft report figure? Perhaps we (us bank "customers") should all contribute to your fees to go in and show them how to do it for a fever - which I suspect is what it really costs.

Yours faithfully,
N. HAMILTON-HAMILL,
6 Avenue Road,
Staines,
Middlesex.

Ernie 'picks young winners'

From Mr Richard F. Messik
Sir, I was interested to read your article regarding premium bond prizes in The Times.

I have held a small amount of bonds for some twenty years and have never won a penny during that period of time. I thought you would be interested in a letter that I received from the Bonds and Stock Office when I wrote to query whether my bonds had been registered. The inference

from the letter is that whilst all bonds are meant to have an equal chance of winning "the earlier premium bond numbers appear less often in the list of winners".

It would indicate that there is more chance of winning with recent issued bonds than those which had been issued some time ago. Yours faithfully, RICHARD F. MESSIK
Limefield, 1 Farm Way,
Northwood,
Middlesex.

Rate rise 'would improve prizes'

From Mr Allan Makinson
Sir, The correspondents questioning the fairness of Ernie's distribution of prizes have all missed the important point that if the Government paid out a fair rate of interest on the prize fund instead of the measly 6.5 per cent on which winnings are based, all bond holders would stand to gain at least a 50 per cent improvement on

their chances of a win! Yours faithfully, ALLAN MAKINSON,
8 Wheatcroft Avenue,
Fence, Burnley,
Lancashire.

Letters are welcomed, but The Times regrets it cannot give individual replies or advice. No legal responsibility can be accepted for advice or statements in these columns.

Final account shows why financial community welcomes Peps

From R. A. Nicholls
Sir, I invested £2,400 in BP shares in a NatWest personal equity plan in November 1987.

This week I withdrew the investment, and the final account over almost exactly three years is: my profit, £475.39; NatWest fees, £131.54; brokers' fees, £99.93; stamp duty and VAT, £34.34.

It would have been difficult to have earned less than £700 tax-free from a building society for the same investment for the same time, and an investment that gives £34 to

the government can hardly be called tax-free. However, it is quite clear why the financial services community welcomes these plans.

Yours faithfully,
R. A. NICHOLLS,
45 Hound Street,
Sherborne, Dorset.

Unfair to Bupa's captive members

From Mr Richard C. Petersen
Sir, Like Mr O'Leary (Weekend Money, November 17), I too have been unable to obtain any tax relief from Bupa. However, I have a letter from the Treasury confirming that "... the balance of the premium he pays from his own resources should be eligible for relief, Bupa should be able to give him more details about this." The letter is dated June 27.

Despite reminders, Bupa have been unable to give me any details. Their treatment of LP subscribers differs markedly from their treatment of others. Perhaps the Director of Fair Trading should take an interest in their lack of activity, which seems to be unfair to the "captive" LP subscribers who must continue to be members willy-nilly.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD C. PETERSEN,
15 West End Terrace,
Winchester, Hampshire.

Account closed over charges

From Mrs E. Lewis
Sir, Close the account! That's what I advise David Channing to do (Overdraft charges, Weekend Money, November 17). I recently closed my current account with a branch of the same "listening" bank when they not only charged me for being slightly over-

drawn but timed the charges so that I would start off the next quarter overdrawn, and would presumably be charged by them for this (charges on charges)?

I have a high interest cheque account with the same branch so a phone call or letter from them (for which I would have paid) could have averted these charges, as I would have transferred funds from the HICA. I object to paying £17.05 Activity Charge plus £15 for "additional services". What additional services?

Incidentally I have found to my cost that the balance of account details obtainable at cash dispenser machine outlets aren't always up to date, hence my becoming overdrawn.

More power to your column. Yours sincerely, E. LEWIS,
42 Blenheim Grove,
London, SE15.

More junk mail or should I call it 'additional services'



Right to complain about health premium relief

From Mr David Money-Coutts
Sir, Mr O'Leary quite rightly complains that Bupa is unable to deduct tax from the balance of his premium after deduction of his Lifelong Protection benefit, despite his being over 65.

Presumably, however, he can himself claim that tax relief direct from the Inland Revenue. I am under 65 and pay a Lifelong Protection premium which is exclusively for the provision of health care after I become 65. In the spirit of the 1989 Finance Act that premium should attract tax relief but it does not. Would the

Treasury care to make an appropriate amendment in the 1991 Finance Act, or sooner? Yours faithfully, DAVID MONEY-COUTTS,
Maggie House,
Peppard Common,
Henley-on-Thames,
Oxfordshire.

Court victory for car owner

By LINDSAY COOK, MONEY EDITOR

TEN months after her car was written off by coping stones falling on it in the January storms, a reader has received compensation from Norwich Union.

Iris Baker, of Burnham-on-Sea, Somerset, parked her ten-year-old Datsun Sunny in the town's Adam Street on January 25. When she returned to collect it she found that masonry from a house had fallen on to the car and punctured the bonnet. The engine was damaged and the car was written off.

The householder provided details of his buildings insurance and Mrs Baker made a claim for the value of the car from Norwich Union, the insurer of the building. She was refused on the grounds that the householder had not been negligent, but decided to take the matter further.

Kevin Baker, her husband, said: "We told us it was an act of God, but we argued that if adequate steps had been taken to maintain the building the damage would not have happened."

"We got the feeling that because it was a big company with structural engineers and lawyers to call on they felt they

could stamp on us because we were not big enough to bite.

"We decided to take the case to the small claims court and filed for £500 plus costs. Norwich Union's solicitor denied liability and a date was set for an arbitration hearing. They did not turn up so a second hearing was set for Friday, November 23, at Weston-super-Mare County Court."

On Tuesday, Mr Baker heard that the insurance company had paid £500 plus the £37 costs.

"We did this without a solicitor and suggest that anyone else who has had difficulty pursuing a claim from an insurance company should use the small claims procedure," said Mr Baker.

A spokesman for Norwich Union confirmed the company had paid the full amount of the claim in to the court. He explained why it had not paid earlier: "If something blows off the roof of a house in exceptional weather conditions it is unfortunate but it does not mean the owner has been negligent."

"As time progressed we felt our case was not absolutely cast iron and we decided to pay into the small claims

court." But Norwich Union will now set about recovering its money from Co-operative Insurance. The contents of the property were insured by the latter and legal liability claims are normally covered by the contents and not the buildings policy.

Insurers cover a householder's legal liability, but the Norwich Union spokesman said that this was not "no fault" insurance.

THE INVESTMENT HOT LINE

UNIT TRUSTS FROM £25 A MONTH

Ring our free Moneyline from 9.30 a.m. - 5.30 p.m., 7 days a week, on **0800 282 101**

SAVE & PROSPER

THE INVESTMENT HOT LINE

NEW FOR TODAY'S MARKETS

Tax-Free Investment. Worry-Free Timing.

WHEN IS THE BEST TIME TO INVEST IN EQUITIES?

It's a fact that equity investment offers one of the best ways to build long-term wealth, and that the best time to invest is when prices are low. Indeed right now, as the Gulf crisis and political and economic uncertainties continue unabated, many stocks are offering real value after recent falls.

But it's also a fact that it's impossible to predict when the markets have reached their bottom. So when do you invest? At Fidelity we've created an ideal solution.

Introducing the Fidelity PEP Phased Investment Programme.

Now, through the new Fidelity PEP Phased Investment Programme, you can benefit from all the tax breaks of a PEP. And, because your investment is 'phased' into equities over a number of months, you don't have to worry about correctly timing your investment in today's markets. You spread your risk and benefit from the market upturn when it comes - tax-free. Consider all the advantages:

- ✓ NO worries about short-term market timing
- ✓ The benefits of pound cost averaging
- ✓ NO income tax on dividends - even for higher rate taxpayers
- ✓ NO capital gains tax - no matter how great the growth
- ✓ Choice of three top portfolios - Growth, Income and International - and choice of 6 or 12 month phasing periods
- ✓ High rates of interest on cash on deposit

Fast performance is no guarantee of future returns. The value of investments within a PEP and the income from them may go down as well as up and the investor may not get back the amount invested. The tax advantages of a PEP are those currently available and may be subject to future statutory change. The value of tax savings will depend upon an investor's individual circumstances. Prior to 6.4.91 PEP cash deposits are subject to composite rate tax.

Issued by Fidelity Nominees Limited, a member of IMRO.

Talk To Fidelity Now.

Don't miss out on this outstanding opportunity to combine the performance strength of the world's largest independent fund management group, the tax savings of a PEP, and the advantages of 'phasing' your investment over a number of months.

For further details about the Fidelity PEP Phased Investment Programme, contact your Independent Financial Adviser, or Callfree Fidelity on 0800 414191 anytime between 9am and 9pm, 7 days a week, or return the coupon.

Call your Independent Financial Adviser Callfree Fidelity 0800 414191

To Fidelity Nominees Limited, PO Box 88, Tonbridge, Kent TN11 9DZ. Please send me details of the Fidelity PEP Phased Investment Programme.

Full Name Mr Mrs Miss (Black letters please) _____
Address _____
Postcode _____
Tel No _____
Ref Code T209 _____

Fidelity Investments

TAX FREE

The Thinking Investor's PEP

Gartmore's new PEP Strategy gives you the choice and flexibility to pick a PEP as individual as yourself.

To find out how to make the most of your tax free entitlement dip the coupon or call our Investor Services Advice Line free.

0800 289336 FREE

Gartmore Investment Limited, Gartmore House, P.O. Box 65, 16-18 Monument Street, London EC3R 8DD. Please send me Gartmore's PEP Strategy pack.

Name _____
Address _____
Postcode _____

Information provided may be used for our marketing purposes

Gartmore

The price of units and shares and the income from them can go down as well as up and you may not get back the amount invested. The value of any tax relief depends on individual circumstances. Please note that tax legislation may change. Gartmore Investment Limited. A member of IMRO.

Details of the pension tracing service to be set up next April by the government were published yesterday. They fall far short of the expectations raised by the social security department last autumn when it announced the scheme was to be set up.

The pensions registry is to be operated by the Occupational Pensions Board and will be able to provide employees with information dating back to 1975, when preserved pensions began. It will not help those nearing retirement to trace money held by the pension schemes of long-defunct companies.

Those nearing retirement who want help in finding pension money frozen since the Fifties or Sixties will receive no help from official sources. They will still have to rely on the voluntary help of the Occupational Pensions Advisory Service (Opas) and other organisations - or try a little pensions sleuthing themselves.

The vast majority of tracing cases referred to Opas involve pre-1975 entitlements. Deferred pensions earned long ago can

take months to locate as companies may have been taken over more than once. Those who have moved from one part of the country to another can easily lose contact with old employers and not hear of changes of name or ownership.

Pension entitlements are often held by insurance companies and not by the original company or firm that took it over. Insurance companies currently hold lots of small unclaimed pensions because of the difficulties facing employees trying to trace their funds. Many people who remember leaving pension money behind give up when they are told there are no pensions records dating back to their period of employment.

It is a shame that the opportunity to help sort out the pre-1975 pensions tangle has not been tackled. Many companies did not have computerised records before preservation began, but they should know

Lost pensions will stay buried



COMMENT

LINDSAY COOK
WEEKEND MONEY EDITOR

which old schemes have been absorbed into their own. They could have been required to provide such information.

This will undoubtedly build up to a useful service for people who have only post-1975 pensionable service. Older people will have to find their own pensions.

Open land

At long last home owners may stand a chance against property developers and others who seem determined to run down their neighbourhoods: the Land Registry is to be open to the public from December 3.

This will eventually enable anyone to find out who owns what property. If a consortium starts buying up houses in the area, neighbours will be able to find out. They should also be able to discover who is responsible for run-down properties occupied by squatters or the owners of derelict and overgrown land.

Such enquiries may give the first hint of a planned development and allow residents more time to prepare for battle. In other cases, where properties have been allowed to fall into disrepair, owners can be located by prospective buyers.

Tenants will be able to bypass agents and find out who their

landlord is when repairs are needed.

Initially there are only 13 million properties registered, but each time one of the remaining 9 million is sold it will be added to the register.

It has long been a nonsense that this publicly-held information has been denied to the public.

But how long we would have had to wait to have access to these records if the housing market had not collapsed, forcing the registry to look for replacement revenue, is a question that must be considered.

City damaged

Stock Group investors who have been waiting since June to have their cash restored to them should see some progress soon. The investors caught in the collapse of British and Commonwealth have had cash realised

from share sales frozen in the B&C merchant bank.

While the direct customers of the bank have been paid compensation of up to £15,000 each by the deposit protection board, clients of B&C intermediaries have had to wait for the brokers to supply information to the bank compensation scheme.

A series of letters have been sent to the brokers detailing exactly what is needed, but, until now, Stock Group has failed to come up with information on what was held for clients on a specific date.

Now one of the investors has been promised in a letter from Stock Group that all the information will be handed over by this weekend.

By next weekend clients should be told exactly what their assets are.

If this proves to be correct, it will be only a matter of weeks before compensation is paid.

Many of the investors are likely to think twice before trusting a broker again. The whole business has damaged the reputation of the City for straight dealing.

MEDICAL reports from doctors to back up applications for life insurance are being scrapped by one large life office and replaced with questionnaires to be filled in by the applicants.

Royal Life hopes its eight-page medical conditions questionnaire will avoid delays of two to three weeks, which it says are common among doctors filling in the three-page medical attendance report.

Royal says it is the first to have introduced self-policing medical questionnaires. Other life offices require a medical attendance report, depending on age and how much cover is required.

Asking applicants to fill in their own medical questionnaire will also save the £20 fee life companies have to pay doctors filling in forms. This cost is indirectly met by policyholders through their premiums. The questionnaire has eight sections covering anxiety or depression, arthritis, asthma, bronchitis, epilepsy, growths and tumours, high blood pressure, stomach and "female" complaints.

Most life offices require one of two kinds of medical reports. Limits vary from company to company, but anyone

Royal drops doctor's report and puts trust in applicants

wanting an endowment policy of more than £80,000 to cover a mortgage will probably find his or her doctor is asked by the life company to fill in a medical attendance report. This shows the applicant's past medical history.

For cover of more than £120,000, companies will normally require potential policyholders to undergo a medical examination. Spencer Leigh, chief underwriter at Royal Life, said: "We are circumventing the medical attendance report, which can take a fortnight or three weeks. Very few doctors send it back by return of post and if a person wants access to their report, as they are allowed to under the Access to Medical Reports Act, it can take longer."

No one under the age of 40 wanting less than £100,000 of cover would need to fill in a questionnaire and only those who have already declared a

medical problem on their original proposal form would be asked to give more details. "If people give us more detail we will normally be able to accept their proposal immediately," said Mr Leigh.

Anyone wanting more than £200,000 of cover will still have to undergo a medical examination.

Scottish Life will accept proposals from people up to the age of 55 for amounts up to £75,000 if it is an endowment to cover mortgages. Above this, applicants have to have a medical attendance report. Applicants aged less than 30 for shorter term endowments will be subjected to a medical report if they want more than £175,000 of cover. Those over 50 year need a medical report for more than £60,000.

Ray Milne, assistant general manager of marketing at Scottish Life, questioned whether people might be tempted to

hide information on a form they filled in themselves.

"The danger of this approach is that it invites non-disclosure. People may not want to put things down because they're embarrassed. But non-disclosure is fraud and life companies are not legally obliged to pay out on claims."

Mr Leigh said: "The non-disclosure rate across all policies is about 15 per cent at the moment. But I am sticking my neck out and saying people will be willing to help."

Ray Morley, marketing services manager at Commercial Union, said: "There is no reason to think people are other than honest. But there is a danger that the company may have to make an assumption if people do not give enough medical information which could work against the policyholder."

Commercial Union requires medical attendance re-

ports on applicants wanting more than £80,000 of cover on a 25 year mortgage endowment. People needing more than £120,000 require medical examination. Everyone over the age of 60 needs a report for shorter-term endowments, but younger people wanting more than £60,000 will also have to give medical information.

The Association of British Insurers (ABI) is holding talks with the health department to decide whether to ban life companies from asking applicants if they have had a positive Aids test. Several states in America already outlaw the practice and other countries are moving towards a voluntary ban.

At present, British insurers say they will continue to ask about Aids, on the grounds that the information helps them underwrite the risk accurately.

A spokesman for the ABI said: "Companies will need convincing about the truth of anecdotal evidence that people are being dissuaded from taking tests because they are frightened of not being able to get life insurance."

By SARA MCCONNELL

Investors' thoughts turn to electricity flotation

By LINDSAY COOK, MONEY EDITOR



Frankie: promoting issue

THIS weekend at least 7.4 million people will be considering whether to apply for shares in the 12 electricity companies. Mini-prospectuses should be sent out by next Wednesday to those who registered for the sale by mid-November. Applications must be in by the following Wednesday.

Prospectuses will be available in banks, post offices, brokers' offices and some building societies from next Wednesday. Application forms will also begin to be published in newspapers from that date.

The initial stake is £1 per share, with a minimum investment in any company of £100 at the outset. Then investors have almost two years to meet the rest of the £2.40 price per share. The second instalment of 70p is due in October next year and the final instalment in September 1992.

Those customers who registered with the share information office by November 14 will be able to choose either electricity bill discount vouchers, worth £18 for every 100 shares up to a maximum of £70, or a bonus of one free share for every ten held for three years, up to a maximum of 300 free shares.

Few applicants will be able to bank the expected profit before Christmas because, like the water companies, this privatisation is not being dealt for cash. Dealing is expected to begin on December 11 but only those who have made prior arrangements with brokers will be able to sell them because interim certificates are not expected to be despatched until December 19.

National Westminster will be alone in offering cash settlement, and then only through its 270 touchscreens in main branches. The minimum fee will be £20 and a cheque will be handed over

immediately. Those able to deal between December 11 and 14 through conventional stockbrokers will not be paid until January 11. The majority, who have to wait for their certificates before they can deal, will receive their cash on January 15, as long as they sell by December 28. Sales between December 31 and January 11 will be settled on January 22.

NatWest will also be offering a postal dealing service with a minimum commission of £9.

Existing customers of Sharelink, the telephone dealing service, and those who registered by early November, will be able to deal without certificates for a minimum fee of £5 if they apply for electricity shares through the company. For this fee the company will deal "at best". Those electricity investors who want to deal within a preset limit will be charged a minimum of £7.50.

Most electricity share sellers will not know the price they received until their contract note arrives. The Yorkshire Building Society is offering to sell shares for investors "at best" within an hour of instructions being received for a minimum fee of £10. Those

who choose to wait to find out what their proceeds will be are being offered a free financial assessment. Cheques will be sent out the following day with the contract note but they will be post-dated to the settlement date.

If customers pay the cheque into a Yorkshire account on settlement day the society will give immediate clearance of up to £500 in cash instead of making customers wait the usual ten days for clearance.

The Norwich & Peterborough Building Society is offering dealing from the first day for investors and will allow sellers to specify a minimum price. The society will charge a minimum of £8. Diameter, the Guildford stockbroker, will deal without certificates. The minimum fee is £5 with family deals costing £10. Clients can choose between dealing "at best" or by specifying minimum price.

The Leeds and Skipton building societies are offering free dealing in electricity shares through Capel Cure Myers Capital Management. Customers have to apply for shares through the societies to qualify for free dealing.

The yield on the shares ranges from 8.03 per cent for Eastern and Southern to 9.03 per cent for Northern. The first dividend will be paid in full before the second instalment is due. The high yield and the expected premium on the shares will encourage long-term holders to put the shares in tax-free personal equity plans (Peps). Midlands, South Western, and Yorkshire are offering corporate plans with no initial charge. Most large-plan managers are not offering electricity Peps but many brokers are.

The Stock Exchange has produced a leaflet listing the 77 firms willing to deal in electricity shares. This can be obtained free by telephoning 081 802 3124.

Public shrinks from shares

By SARA MCCONNELL

DESPITE the privatisation programme of the last decade, small investors have not taken to wider share ownership promoted by the Thatcher governments because buying and selling shares is still too complicated.

Only 14 per cent of shareholders held shares that they bought through the stockmarket, while the rest of Britain's 11 million shareholders bought shares through privatisations or off the page, according to the latest International Stock Exchange/Treasury survey.

David Jones, chief executive of Sharelink, said this was because banks and stockbrokers were not interested in catering for the small investor holding one or two privatisation stocks. "Operations like Sharelink are the product of the fallings of Big Bang. Derogulation should have meant wider share ownership, but banks and stockbrokers

are not that interested because their businesses are geared to large deals, or well heeled private clients."

The Confederation of British Industry estimated in *A Nation of Shareholders*, a report published last month, that the proportion of British shares held by private investors fell to 20 per cent last year, down from 30 per cent in 1980. Institutional investors held 60 per cent, and the remainder was held by the government and other British and overseas investors.

Six-and-a-half million private shareholders had holdings in only one company and only 0.3 million held shares in 11 or more companies. Holdings are overwhelmingly in privatisation issues.

The BT flotation attracted 1.2 million registrations and 2.3 million applications. Enthusiasm for privatisations grew with the TSB flotation, for which 3.1 million people

registered and 5 million applied. But in the 1986 gas flotation, there were 7.5 million registrations and 4.5 million applications. Dealings in BP started just after the crash of 1987, which explains why 6.5 million registrations resulted in 250,000 applications. One-and-a-half million people registered for British Steel and 650,000 applied.

People see privatisations mainly as a way to make a quick profit, according to research from the Stock Exchange and the Association of Investment Trust Companies. The crash of 1987 was seen as a warning that investing on the stockmarket was risky, but privatisations were considered low risk. The CBI estimated exposure to stockmarkets through pension funds had increased five-fold during the past two years. Four million people have invested in the personal pensions introduced in July 1988.

Gilts likely to shine

GILTS are likely to become a more attractive buy because interest rates will probably fall again before Christmas after Mrs Thatcher's resignation. When interest rates fall the price of gilt rises as more people enter the market to lock into fixed returns.

Jamie Berry, managing director of Berry Asset Management, the independent adviser, predicted that new gilt issues would also be launched. "There are signs that the gilt market is beginning to pick up and there may be some attractive issues coming

ing up, although these are likely to be longer gilts and, therefore, slightly riskier. The gilt market will be a good way of raising new money."

Mike Shaw, project manager at Framlington, said: "I think it is likely that interest rates will fall and if the outlook for equities remains uncertain, the prospects for gilts are good. But if starting weakness, interest rates may have to go up again."

Since 1988, investors have received the best yield from short dated gilts, which reflect interest rates most strongly.

PENSION PLANS FOR THE INDEPENDENT WOMAN

Ring our free Moneyline from 9.30 a.m. - 5.30 p.m. 7 days a week, on

0800 282 101

SAVE & PROSPER

THE INVESTMENT HOUSE

Halifax Building Society offers an attractive fixed rate opportunity for those with substantial sums to invest.

It's called a Time Deposit, a high return investment for sums of £50,000 or more.

And it promises significant advantages for the astute investor, especially if you want to secure a fixed rate investment while interest rates are still high.

NOW THERE'S A SAFE WAY INTO THE BIG TIME.

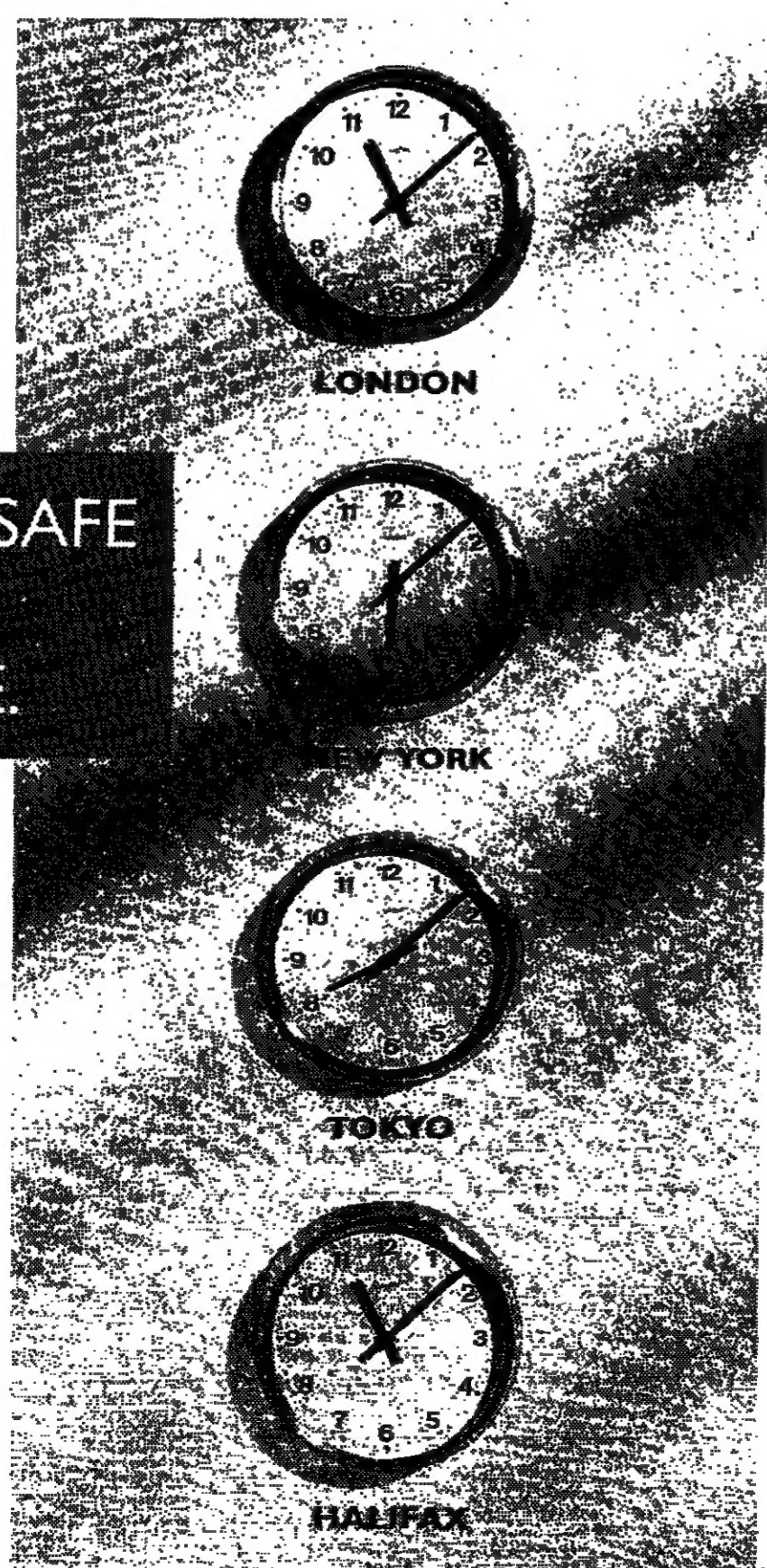
This is because the interest rate is set to reflect money market conditions. (These change, of course, so you can check the going rate at Halifax branches.)

And once your rate is agreed, it's fixed for the full term of the deposit.

What's more, interest is paid gross, which can make this a tax-efficient investment now that husbands and wives are assessed independently.

As for the term itself, that's entirely up to you; any period from one month to a year. (With the option of reinvesting the capital or capital and interest.)

If you'd like to talk more about Time Deposits, why not call into your nearest Halifax branch? It's your open door to a very rewarding return.



NO ADDITIONAL DEPOSITS CAN BE MADE DURING THE TERM OF THE INVESTMENT. WITHDRAWALS ARE NOT PERMITTED IN ADVANCE OF MATURITY. A COPY OF THE FULL TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE ACCOUNT CAN BE OBTAINED FROM ANY BRANCH, OR HALIFAX BUILDING SOCIETY, TRINITY ROAD, HALIFAX, WEST YORKSHIRE, HX1 2RG.

Devotion to duty keeps the boy scout to the fore

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH

BUSINESS PROFILE

Michael Julien

Michael Julien has aged visibly since taking on the role of chief executive at Storehouse. The boyish looks for which he was renowned have faded in the past two and a half years, but even at the age of 52, the boy scout in him is very much to the fore. Julien combines a Biggles-like enthusiasm with a readiness to do his duty. There is something oddly innocent about him.

A product of the establishment, he is the sort of chap who would have made a good head boy. He is a deeply conventional man with a respect for authority, a passion for neatness and a huge sense of his responsibilities. He has a Japanese-style devotion to his job and readily admits to putting the company before his family.

He has been described as a man for the current economic environment, a financial engineer, one of the men in the grey suits. He is known as being a serious man and he has no obvious sense of humour. His ability for sorting out balance sheets is not in doubt but when it comes to doing anything creative or artistic he is an unknown quantity. One former fellow director, who refused to be publicly identified, described him as visually illiterate.

There is no guile or deviousness in Michael Julien. Those who know him well describe him as a man of integrity, a perfectionist who thrives under pressure and hates to be kept waiting. He is nigged by little things, such as ringing telephones and misplaced letters.

All who know him agree on two things. He is phenomenally hard working and he talks endlessly, usually on the telephone. He has a strong sense of morality, with a tendency to see issues in black and white, and talks frequently of "doing the right thing".

Ellen, his Norwegian wife, says: "If we have been abroad and I have bought £25 of gifts and the duty free allowance is £18, I have to go through the red channel at customs and declare the extra."

Julien says of himself: "I do not want a single day to go by without learning something. I could not look myself in the mirror if I did a job to only 90 per cent of my ability. I expect the same from other people."

The job currently testing his abilities is sorting out Storehouse, the retail empire that includes British Home Stores, Mothercare, Habitat, Richards and Blazer.

And he is approaching the task with the singlemindedness of a captain leading his troops over the top. Julien has not shrunk from performing drastic corrective surgery on the business that was built by his predecessor, Sir Terence Conran. Heal's, the furniture retailer, has been sold to its management. Habitat has been cut back with the closure of 12 stores. Nearly 1,000 jobs have gone at BHS. Jacadi, the childrenswear business, has gone, as have a host of directors and managers.

And that is just this year. Since Julien arrived in June 1988, the entire board of Storehouse has changed. The culmination of his policy was the resignation of Sir Terence as chairman in May this year. Julien's colleagues describe the recent changes as the "de-Conranising of Storehouse". Those who worked closely with Sir Terence have gone.

Sir Terence says: "Storehouse was a place where everyone called everyone else by their first name. One of Michael's first acts on arriving at Storehouse was to send a memo round telling staff that he wanted to be addressed as Mr Julien. He has totally changed the whole concept of the business."

But to many City observers Michael Julien has saved the company from financial disaster. His first act as chief executive was to bring borrowings down ahead of the rise in interest rates. Without these shrewd moves early on, Storehouse would be in a considerably weaker position than it is today.

But he still has some way to go before he can claim success. Recent half-year figures from Storehouse show profits down from £8.7 million to £3.8 million. The price that he has had to pay for City approval has been the disintegration of his relationship with Conran. But while he is saddened that they are no longer friends, Julien is clear about the issues. It was Conran's duty to go.

Julien says of that period: "Terence is like any other entrepreneur who has built his own business. It was very difficult for him to let go. He had been told very firmly by the institutions that he had to

appoint a chief executive, and the deal from the beginning was that I would be in charge. Everyone at Storehouse would report to me and I would report to him."

"The difficulty was for him, not me. I had to be cruel to be kind. But at the end of the day I had to be stubbornly determined to get the disciplines into the company."

"I had to act in the best interests of all the shareholders. I remember having Christmas lunch with Terence last year and saying 'I understand how you feel but I just can't do anything about it. This is hurting you; it is really necessary to carry on this degree of pain?' I did regret the situation but I had to do what was right for the company."

He has not seen Sir Terence since he retired.

Sir Terence, who in his style is the antithesis of Julien, finds the "de-Conranising" of Storehouse deeply wounding. "To strengthen the balance sheet Michael is selling off the family silver. Some of us believe in a more cheerful tomorrow but those little businesses, the seed corn of Storehouse, have been sold. If Michael cannot manage a business, he sells it," he says. Many believe he will eventually sell Habitat.

But Julien's concern for his staff and his openness endear him to past and current employees.

Chris Bull, finance director of BTR, says: "He is a good team player, very quick and with an excellent memory. People who work for him respect and admire him. He is singleminded and physically very robust."

Yet it has not all been happy shoulders to the wheel since Julien took over at Storehouse. Bob Mackenzie, the finance director appointed by Julien last year, left last month after a boardroom row. Julien is maintaining a diplomatic silence on the issue and lawyers for both sides have advised their clients to say

"I do not want a single day to go by without learning something. I could not look myself in the mirror if I did a job to only 90 per cent of my ability. I expect the same from other people"

nothing. Mr Mackenzie is known to have very firm opinions, particularly over the Habitat issue. At the end of the day, he was not prepared to fall into line and march with the rest of the boy scouts. Under the Julien regime that meant he had to go.

Julien's physical strength is important. For the past seven years he has put himself under immense pressure, moving from one troubled company to another. Like a *Boy's Own* hero, he has been dashing about putting balance sheets in order and sorting out accounts.

His rapid career progression has laid him open to criticism that he quits before a job is fully done. He says he is hurt by the accusations and that in each instance he had done as much as he could before leaving.

Last year, when under pressure from the City and a threatened bid from Asher Edelman, the American arbitrageur, Julien lined up an impressive list of the great and the good who were prepared to endorse his record and leadership qualities.

Julien was born on March 22, 1938, the second son in a family of three. His father, who was French, worked for Barclays Bank, becoming branch manager at the age of 45. Julien's earliest memory is of being sent to boarding school at the age of five during the war. Most of his childhood was spent at school, firstly in Shrewsbury, Shropshire, and then at St Edward's School, Oxford, on a scholarship from Barclays Bank. He had no family life to speak of.

He would have loved to have gone to university, his older brother was studying medicine, but his father decreed that he was not prepared to give both sons a further education.

"My father had the bright idea that I should become a

chartered accountant. As a bank manager he knew that accountants earned more than anyone else. He knew the big eight accountancy firms and wrote to four. I got an interview with Price Waterhouse."

"I remember being very embarrassed at the interview because my father insisted on coming with me," says Julien.

Despite his lack of a maths A-level, Price Waterhouse detected the budding accountant in him, but packed him off to do his National Service before taking him on. Julien enjoyed his time in Royal Signals and thought about making a career of it. He says that to keep himself sane while doing his accountancy articles he joined the Territorial Army.

It was while he was training to be an accountant that he met his wife Ellen, an air hostess, on a trip to Oslo. Ellen remembers that he bought a Norwegian linguistic "almost immediately" and was able to offer to do the dishes when he first met her parents.

They married when Julien was 25 and lived in Norway for one year. But he grew restless in Norway and also in accountancy. He wanted to launch into business.

He made the break at the age of 29, becoming chief financial officer of C E Heath, the insurance broker, and before long he was on the board.

Julien is a remarkably open man and made no secret of his ambition to become chief executive of a large public company. It took him 20 years working for seven different companies before achieving that ambition.

He was treasurer at British Leyland for just more than a year before moving to Willis Faber, which he helped to float. Within three years he had moved to become finance director at BICC, later becoming disillusioned and moving to the board of Midland Bank. It was there that he made his reputation, playing a key role in the Crocker affair, the most serious banking predicament Britain has seen.

"We were living on the edge of our nerves," says Julien. "It was an amazing period. The hours we were working were just silly."

"I did not have Christmas with my family for three years running. I stopped for two hours on Christmas Eve to have dinner with them. The kids were sad, but what could you do?"

"But it was not just the Christmases, it was hour after hour, night after night. My middle daughter has never quite forgiven me for missing her confirmation. There is no way you can ever replace that, although it is nothing compared to what people put up with during the war."

They did not fail and Crocker was finally sold, but Julien was hooked on the adrenaline. "It was an enormous anti-climax going back to being the day to day finance director of a clearing bank," he says.

Despite being physically exhausted, he accepted the job of deputy chief executive of Eurotunnel. He stayed just six months.

Nevertheless, he believes now that it was a mistake to go straight from the Midland trouble into the hectic business of the Eurotunnel float. But he admits that swapping the role of finance director for that of deputy chief executive was too strong a lure to resist.

He does not regret his time at Eurotunnel, which was when he developed his love of the French. He bought a farm house on the west coast of France. "I never regret doing anything when I learn something," he says. The appointment of Alastair Morton as chief executive of Eurotunnel persuaded him to leave.

"Alastair's background was too similar to mine," he says. "I did feel let down. I thought it was right to go. Alastair was a damn good choice, so to that extent I did not take it personally. He is doing a good job."

By that time the Guinness affair had blown up and the drinks group was in the market for an efficient finance director. Julien was successfully head-hunted for the umpteenth time.

Sir Ian McLaurin, a Guinness non-executive director, says of him: "He is very able and has a marvellous brain. He is quite autocratic, knows what he wants and speaks his mind. He is a very proper man and a good team player."

Julien is still on the board of Guinness, but within 18 months he had received the call from Sir Terence offering him the ultimate prize — the chief executive's role. How could he refuse?

If Julien has regrets they are to do with the lack of time he has spent with his three children: Heidi, aged 25, Christine,



Personal sacrifice: Michael Julien, chief executive of Storehouse, who puts company before family, at home with his Norwegian wife Ellen

aged 22, and Mark, aged 16. While he has worked mostly from his London flat, Ellen and the children have lived in the family home in Weybridge, Surrey.

"I do not spend time on the things other people value," he says. "I do not go to concerts or the theatre much. I haven't time for the garden

and cannot be part of anything where people rely on me to turn up regularly. I have sacrificed a lot in family terms over the last ten years."

"If you ask my wife she would tell you I put the people in my company before the family."

Julien is not tremendously wealthy in City terms but he

has invested in property and owns three homes. He drives a company BMW.

"I am a great one for saving money. I have always been a saver. I do not collect art or buy jewellery because I can not be bothered with the hassle of insuring them."

Nearly all his friends are past business associates and

he has a wide circle of friends rather than one or two intimates.

He was touched that all 17 of the former colleagues he invited to his 51st birthday party last year turned up for the occasion.

Sir Terence says: "He does want the approval of the establishment. He would love

a knighthood. He is ambitious and wants fame and fortune but in an arid sense. The company is his life."

Julien says: "I do not feel a lonely person. I enjoy my life. All of my private life and social life revolve around the job, but I get pleasure out of things other people would not enjoy."

UP TO
11.75%

NET VARIABLE

**THE HIGHEST
90 DAY RATE
FROM A MAJOR
BUILDING
SOCIETY**

PLUS

**A PEACE OF
MIND
GUARANTEE.**



*Guaranteed 11.75% net is available on balances up to £10,000. All interest rates quoted are variable. If the account is closed prior to 31st April 1991, interest will be payable out of the basic rate tax facility which will be charged by the society and which may not be redeemed. Withdrawals without penalty are subject to only 90 days written notice. Immediate withdrawals are subject to only 90 days rate of interest. Head Office: Yorkshire House, Westgate, Bradford BD1 2AL. Telephone: 0274 754522.

KEY BENEFIT

The highest rate, a peace of mind guarantee plus 90 days access.

Our new Key 90 Day Account. Quite simply it's the best available from any major building society. It offers the highest rate for £20,000-11.75% net. Plus a unique guarantee.

For the period up to 15th August 1992, the interest rate on balances of £20,000 and over is guaranteed to be above the average of the top rates of interest paid by other major building societies' on 90 day accounts.

So now you can have complete peace of mind about your investment without having to shop around.

There's even a monthly income option at 11.15% net.

A lower entry level of £10,000, paying 11.00% net is also available, with a monthly income option at 10.45% net.

Current Interest Rates (variable)	
Balance	Rate
£20,000 - £1 Million	11.75% Net
£10,000 - £19,999	11.00% Net

The Key 90 Day Account.

Another outstanding investment opportunity from Britain's Key Building Society.

Send the coupon with your cheque today to the FREEPOST address below. Or call into any branch of the Society.

If you require interest paid gross in the current tax year, ask for details of Offshore Key from Yorkshire Guaranty.

FREEPOST

Send to: Yorkshire Building Society (Department K90), FREEPOST, Yorkshire House, Westgate, Bradford, West Yorkshire BD1 2AL.

I enclose a cheque for £..... (min £10,000) made payable to Yorkshire Building Society.

NAME IN FULL _____ Title _____

RESIDENCE ADDRESS _____

POSTCODE _____

D.O.B. _____ TEL. _____

SIGNATURE _____

P.S. I am interested in receiving gross interest this tax year. Please send me details of Offshore Key from Yorkshire Guaranty. ☐ no

YORKSHIRE
Building Society

Britain's Key Building Society

SUMMARY

Trust offers tax break on rights

INVESTORS in the Trio Investment Trust, a new index tracking trust from Raphael Zorn Hemsley, the stockbroker, will be able to take dividends and profits tax-free should the firm make a rights issue next year, so long as they put their shares into a personal equity plan (Pep). The company has launched the trust by issuing £4 million of shares and is authorised to increase this ten fold to exploit a Pep loophole. The Inland Revenue confirmed that investors could go over the yearly £6,000 Pep investment limit as long as the rights issue was genuine.

Boy wonder



Storehouse may have aged Michael Julien but he still retains the Biggles-like vigour and devotion to duty that keep him thriving under pressure. Hard work and hard talk, here to Gillian Bowditch, are the hallmarks of the perfectionist chief executive. Page 43

Power deals

The electricity sell-off is going ahead even without Mrs Thatcher. Building societies, banks and stockbrokers continue to tempt the public with cheap dealing rates for shares in the 12 regional electricity companies. Page 42

Share out

Britain has not become a nation of shareholders. Dealing is still too complex and expensive for many small investors, despite interest in privatisation issues. Private investors hold fewer British shares now than at any time over the past 20 years. Page 42

Your views

Seems young animals are more equal than others.



The debate about the chances of winning on the premium bonds continues in readers' letters. Page 41

Loan ties

Home owners may be paying far more than they need to if they take buildings and contents insurance linked to a mortgage from a building society. Page 40

Open land

The Land Registry is finally opening its doors to the public from December 3. People will be able to inspect details of all property on its records, with a better chance of discovering who owns what. Page 40

THE SUNDAY TIMES

Thatcher's shock cure

"When she was elected, British industry seemed in terminal decline... Not only was Britain the sick man of European industry, it was getting sicker. Thatcher administered shock treatment." Business - in The Sunday Times tomorrow.

ABCD 123456

Ditching domestic junk can prove surprisingly profitable

Car boot sales bring out eager bargain hunters in droves

By ANNE CABORN

Every few years most homes suffer a bout of indigestion. Cupboards groan under the weight of domestic detritus: clothes that no longer fit, coffee makers without their glass jugs, and brass thingamies from the bathroom refit that have never quite proved as useful as they looked.

One way of dealing with them is a car boot sale, which not only gets rid of unwanted items but makes money too. In size, they range from a few cars parked on school playing fields to large commercial events attracting thousands of customers.

One of the biggest on the south coast is held on the British Rail station car park at Brighton every Sunday. The sale attracts up to 300 vehicles and stalls.

"I have been here when the snow has been four inches thick on the ground and you still get 40 cars," said Fred Johns, who manages the sale for Bray Associates, the organiser.

Brighton is popular with amateur and professional traders, so sellers have to turn up early to be sure of a place. I arrived at Brighton station at 5.30 am to find I was nowhere near the first in the queue. A number of cars were turned away.

At Brighton, cars queue according to size. Mr Johns directs the ranks of vehicles with the precision of a major-general. "Some people say I am not particularly nice to know first thing on Sunday morning."

A number of organisations and individuals use sales as a way of raising money for charity. "On any one Sunday, we might have

five or six charities here," Mr Johns added.

Trading activities for charities are exempt from tax, unless carried out on a regular basis or as a business. Personal goods and chattels sold for profit are also exempt, but the chances are that at a car boot sale the items are being sold at a loss. The Inland Revenue would start to take an interest if anyone started to buy goods to

'Brighton is popular with amateurs and professional traders, so sellers have to turn up early to be sure of a place. I arrived at Brighton station at 5.30 am to find I was nowhere near the first in the queue'

sell, or were selling other people's goods for commission.

Attic clearers should take time to choose a sale. The larger, more popular ones can have higher entrance fees, but a large crowd looking for a wider range of goods is almost guaranteed.

At Brighton a car costs £7 and rises according to vehicle type and size. Smaller sales may cost only £2 and £3 and can sometimes command better prices for certain items. Good children's and baby clothes can sell well at events organised by a school.

Dealers tend to be among the first to arrive, intent on snapping

up the best bargains before regular customers turn up.

Good quality furniture, *objets d'art* and memorabilia should be appraised and sold through reputable dealers or auction houses. Never part with something at a car boot sale unless certain it is of little real value. Better quality clothes should be sold through dress agencies and good quality hardback books through second hand book sellers. Older books, first and short run editions should be expertly priced. I had already taken the better hardback books to our local bookseller the week before attending a sale and raised £10, but that still left six boxes of car boot items and a director's chair that had been the victim of a pot of white paint. The chair sold for £3.50. Altogether, I made £73.

The secret is not to mark prices on items, that way people have to strike up a conversation and it gives the opportunity to haggle. It is often difficult to put a price on items, but customers will have a clear idea of what they are prepared to pay. Their price might be higher than one would have asked.

The aim should be to sell a lot at modest prices. The objective is to get rid of unwanted items and the last thing anyone wants is to cart them all home again. At a car boot sale people want a bargain. There is nothing that cannot be sold. I parted with an old air vent for 20p, two Air Mauritius complementary business class travel packs for £1.70, and a picture of Christopher Reeve dressed as Superman for 50p. Second hand clothes that fell short of dress agency standard and paperback novels were also popular.



Household rubbish: seemingly useless clutter can still be of value to car boot sale enthusiasts

There is no national organisation for car boot sale organisers, although a few belong to the Association of Private Market Operators, formed this year to promote and improve the image of markets.

"The best source of information is usually your local paper," said Brian Numan, secretary of the new association and managing director of Bray Associates. "A lot of them are organised by schools and charities."

He has noticed a marked increase in car boot "weekenders", people who sell personal possessions on a regular basis to boost income. "They are regulars, rather than professionals."

Adrian Linssen, aged 22, and Paul Deller, aged 19, a student, are now Brighton regulars. "We came here once to sell stuff from my mother's attic," said Paul. Both men are electronics buffs and now sell reconditioned hi-fi equipment.

"We've been doing it for six weeks now," said Adrian, who works for an electrical firm during

the week. Broken items are a frequent feature of car boot sales. They are a haven for Mr Fixits and DIY enthusiasts, but the condition of the item should be made

'Attic clearers should take time to choose a car boot sale. The larger, more popular ones can have higher entrance fees, but a large crowd looking for a wider range of goods is almost guaranteed'

clear. Care should also be taken not to sell goods that are faulty or possibly dangerous.

There has been some concern that car boot sales have become a convenient outlet for stolen goods. The matter was raised in the House of Lords in October. But the government has no plans to

initiate specific investigations and no legislation is planned.

Anything that turns out to be stolen has to be returned to its rightful owner. It is possible to take civil action against the person who sold them, but this is rarely worth the time, effort and money.

"That's the general rule," said a trade department spokeswoman, "but much depends on individual circumstances".

Items to be particularly wary of include microwave ovens and portable televisions.

Buying from a professional trader at a car boot sale gives the customer the same rights as they would have elsewhere, which includes items being of merchantable quality and fit for its purpose, even if second hand.

Buying from a private individual gives customers fewer rights. The Sale of Goods Act simply says goods should match their description. So the more asked about the value and condition of the item the better. With anything of worth, ask for the seller's name and address.

'Old ladies in pinnies' run £9m market stall business



'A useful source of income': Betty Francis, the controller of Britain's busiest WI market stall

EACH week, 58,000 people continue a tradition started in 1919 by a group of ex-servicemen who set up a market stall in Lewes town hall in East Sussex to sell fruit and vegetables (Tony Wilkinson writes).

The pioneers, First World War veterans, were allotment holders with too much produce for their own use. And the county Women's Institute came up with the idea of forming a co-operative to sell the surplus produce to the public.

Today, WI Market Co-operative Society is a business with an annual turnover of about £9 million. There are 587 WI market stalls in England, Wales and the Channel Islands. They sell cakes, jam, flowers, vegetables, eggs, craftwork - anything that their members can produce from their homes.

Penny Annand, the national adviser of WI markets, said: "It costs 5p to become a shareholder and £1.40 for the handbook. Every county has a WI Market Co-operative Society. They are run by volunteers, but the standards are very high. We have to meet the same statutory rules and regulations as any professional retailer."

The market stalls are the commercial side of the Women's Institute, segregated so as not to jeopardise the charitable status of the parent body. Shareholders do not need to be members of the Women's Institute, and men are welcome.

"We expect every shareholder

to help run his or her local stall," said Miss Annand. "Stalls are open two to three hours once a week in most places. Produce is handed over weekly and at the end of every month the money is returned to the shareholders, less an agreed percentage commission to WI markets. This is usually between 10 and 15 per cent."

The average income of shareholders is £104 a year, although many make much more than that. Christmas is a busy time, with table decorations, Christmas cakes, dried flowers and crafts providing extra income for many families. A gift delivery service has boosted earnings. Customers state the amount they want to spend and the type of goods preferred. The nearest WI market then delivers the gift to the customer's door.

The busiest WI market stall in Britain is at Chichester, West Sussex. The stall is open every market day from Tuesday to Saturday, selling jam, cakes, flowers fruit and vegetables.

Betty Francis, the WI markets controller in Chichester, spends two days a week baking 30 fruit cakes and between 40 and 50 quiches. She supplies dried flowers and supervises the stall.

"I would like to see more young people getting involved, because it is a useful source of income when you have children at school," she said.

About ten of Chichester's 40 shareholders are men, but few help at the stall, preferring to spend

time in their gardens growing fruit and vegetables, or helping with administration.

"I supply two WI markets with flowers and vegetables from my garden," said Geoff Williamson, a retired Ministry of Defence lecturer from Whittington, Staffordshire. "Two other local men use their surplus fruit to make jam. People think it is all women in WI markets, but that is wrong."

Mr Williamson supplies about £1,200 worth of produce a year to the two stalls. Commission is deducted to cover the cost of rent and expenses, such as stationery and bank charges.

"If there is a surplus at the end of the year, the money is redistributed to shareholders. This can bring the amount of commission down to about 6 per cent. It is very fair. We do not operate for profit. I do not cost for my time or for things like plant pots and compost. But we are professional in our standards."

Regulations about food hygiene have affected home cooking. Health inspectors have the right to visit domestic kitchens where food is cooked for public consumption. Lists of the names and addresses of all the WI markets suppliers are given to local authorities.

Mrs Francis said: "Our standards are just as high as supermarkets or other shops. People describe us as 'those old ladies in pinnies', but we are every bit as professional as the people who do it for a living."

GET MORE OUT OF YOUR 1990/91 PEP INVEST NOW.

Full £6,000 TAX-FREE PEP ALLOWANCE

At Save & Prosper we believe that with many UK companies currently looking cheap, now could be an excellent time to invest in your 1990/91 PEP.

If you believe - as we do - that the market is likely to move up before the end of the current tax year, now could be an excellent time to invest in your 1990/91 PEP.

And you won't find a more comprehensive PEP than Save & Prosper's. It lets you invest in a choice of unit trusts, a Managed Portfolio of leading British companies, or your own choice of shares. It also lets you use your full £6,000 annual tax-free PEP allowance (£12,000 for couples) of which up to £3,000 can be in a unit trust.

So don't wait for share prices to start rising again - you might miss the boat. Invest now and make the most of your PEP. For more details post the coupon, talk to your financial adviser or ring us free on 0800 282 101 - now.

THE PRICE OF INVESTMENTS AND THE INCOME FROM THEM MAY GO DOWN AS WELL AS UP. TAX CONCESSIONS ARE SUBJECT TO STATUTORY CHANGE. SAVE & PROSPER GROUP LTD. IS A MEMBER OF IARD AND LAURO.

CALL FREE 0800 282 101

9.30 a.m. - 5.30 p.m. • 7 DAYS A WEEK

To: Save & Prosper Group Limited, FREEPOST, Romford RM1 1 BR.

Please send me details of Save & Prosper's PEPs.

I am interested in your Unit Trust PEP (for investments up to £3,000) Full PEP

Surname _____ Initials _____

Mr/Ms/Miss _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Home Tel (STD) _____ No. _____ Work Tel (STD) _____ No. _____

No salesman will call. However, an Investment Adviser may telephone to ask if you would like further information on our Unit Trust PEP.

SAVE & PROSPER
THE INVESTMENT HOUSE

هكذا من المال